COVID-19 VACCINES

What you need to know

July 2021

Western Cape Government

Unsure about getting the COVID-19 vaccine?

- It is normal to have some questions.

- Vaccines have ended pandemics like polio and measles. Babies and children get them to prevent these and other diseases.

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and are already saving lives in many countries.

Why do I need the vaccine?

- COVID-19 is here to stay.

- There is no cure for COVID-19.

- Vaccines will protect you against getting very sick or dying from COVID-19.

How does the vaccine work?

- The vaccine trains your immune system to recognise the coronavirus.

- If you then get COVID-19, your immune system will spring into action and prevent you from getting severely ill.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective

Of 2 billion people vaccinated only a very small number had a serious side-effect.

Vaccines protect against severe COVID-19 and death. Vaccines are already saving thousands of lives.

Will the vaccine give me COVID-19 or make me sick?

- No, the vaccine does not contain the virus and will not give you COVID-19.

- Many people experience mild side effects like headache and fever. These start around 6 hours after vaccination and last 1-2 days.

- These show that the immune system is preparing to fight COVID-19.

Do I need the vaccine if I have had COVID-19?

- Yes, natural immunity from infection is not as long-lasting.

- You can have a vaccine 30 days after developing COVID-19.

How soon after my vaccination am I protected against COVID-19?

- 4 weeks after a one-dose vaccination (Janssen or JnJ).

- 2 weeks after the 2nd dose of a two-dose vaccination schedule (Pfizer).

Vaccines are not 100% effective and COVID-19 can still spread.

Until everyone is vaccinated, we must all continue these simple COVID-19 precautions:

Wear your mask

Keep a safe physical distance from others

Wash your hands

Avoid crowds and confined places

REGISTRATION:

What you need to know

- We want to vaccinate as many people as possible.
- To ensure fairness with our existing supplies, we are doing this in line with age-band approach so that those at greatest risk gets vaccinated first.
- You must register on EVDS (the Electronic Vaccination Database System) to quality for vaccination.

EVDS:
How to register

Visit **http://vaccine.enroll. health.gov.za**

— *or* —

Dial ***134*832#**

— *or* —

Send the word **'REGISTER'** to **0600 123 456** on WhatsApp

What happens after registration?

When it is your turn:

- You will receive an SMS with a unique code, your vaccination site, date and time.

- Show this SMS when you go for your vaccination. You can also show a copy of this SMS if you used a friend's phone to register.

- Bring along your ID.

How you can help:
Help to register people who qualify for vaccination, especially if they do not have a smartphone or cannot access the internet.

Let's work together to **end severe COVID-19.**

Get vaccinated as soon as you are able to.

Help others to get vaccinated.

Western Cape Government

For support to register
call **0860 142 142**

or visit
www.westerncape.gov.za

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