

# What you need to know about getting vaccinated\*



## How do I know if the COVID-19 vaccines are safe?

Before any vaccine can be recommended or made available in South Africa, the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) has the responsibility to regulate health products in the country, must assess and ensure that the safety, efficacy and quality of the vaccine has met all the regulatory requirements before it can be approved for use. This process includes performing rigorous multi-stage testing and trials that involve many thousands of people.

## Who is SAHPRA?

The South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) is an entity of the National Department of Health created by Government.



## Why should I get vaccinated?

The aim of getting vaccinated is to help reduce the severity of the illness caused by the COVID-19 virus, help South Africa achieve herd immunity, and prevent ongoing transmission of the virus. A vaccine is intended to provide immunity against a virus by triggering an immune response from the body. A vaccine also allows for the development of antibodies to help fight a specific disease-causing organism. Getting vaccinated can help strengthen your immune system to protect you from developing severe illness and complications from COVID-19.

## Is it safe to be in the same work space as un-vaccinated individuals?

We are working closely with all stakeholders to ensure that we continue to provide a safe working environment with reduced risks for all our employees. We continue to encourage our people to comply with our COVID-19 Health and Safety protocols.

## Do I have to pay to get vaccinated?

The vaccine will be administered free of charge across all parts of the country. The vaccination campaign draws on the principles of universal health coverage for all South Africans to have access to the vaccine.

## Can I still be infected even after being vaccinated?

Yes, however, getting vaccinated provides you with a valuable layer of protection against the COVID-19 virus and will help reduce the severity of the infection. To keep yourself safe you will still need to consider to continue wearing a facemask, wash and sanitise your hands regularly, and keeping physical distance from others.



hotline 0800 029 999  
whatsapp: 0600 123456  
@COVID\_19\_ZA  
sacoronavirus.co.za



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for internal communication only – always consult a registered health professional for any health related requirements

\* Errors and omissions excluded. Information sourced from [www.health.gov.za](http://www.health.gov.za); [www.who.int](http://www.who.int); and [www.nicd.ac.za/covid-19-vaccine-rollout-strategy-faq/](http://www.nicd.ac.za/covid-19-vaccine-rollout-strategy-faq/)



### Can I believe everything I read and hear about the vaccination programme?

No. There is a lot of fake news and conspiracy theories being shared. The best advice is to inform yourself with information from reputable sources, listen to the medical experts and scientists, and consult with your doctor.

### When will I be able to get vaccinated?

Depending on the various vaccination rollout stages of the programme – there are three phases – the most vulnerable will be prioritised to receive the vaccine first. We are now in stage two which includes essential workers and all those above 50 years of age. From 15 July 2021 cohorts in the age bracket of 35-49 will also be able to register. The vaccination of people with co-morbidities over the age of 18 years is currently awaiting approval. Phase three will be for all those above 18 years of age.

### How will the vaccine be administered?

The vaccination system is based on a pre-vaccination registration and appointment system at specific sites. You can register on the EVDS system online.

### Where can I get more information on the vaccination rollout programme?

You can call the COVID-19 call centre on 0800 029 999 or visit <https://sacoronavirus.co.za/vaccine-updates/>

Should you wish to register for the vaccination you can use one of the following options:

Online: [vaccine.enroll.gov.za](https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/vaccine.enroll.gov.za) <<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/vaccine.enroll.gov.za>> .

WhatsApp: 0600 123456.

SMS: dial \*134\*832#.

Call the Covid-19 hotline 0800 029 999.

**Get vaccinated, your family and colleagues need you. Do it for yourself and your loved ones, and help protect those around you.**



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