

# Vaccinating our Educators and Staff at Schools



## TELL US MORE ABOUT THE VACCINE

### Johnson and Johnson Vaccine:

In South Africa, the Johnson and Johnson vaccine has been provided to health workers through the Sisonke trial.

A further 31 million doses of this vaccine (covering 31 million people) have been ordered with the first delivery expected in the second quarter of 2021.

### Is the vaccine safe?

- COVID-19 vaccines are tested rigorously and are proven to be safe and effective.
- If you are an adult with an underlying medical condition or illness, you have a greater risk of severe COVID-19 and should get the vaccine to protect you.
- It gives nearly 100% protection against severe COVID-19 and COVID-19 related death.
- It cannot give you COVID-19 as it does not contain any live virus.
- It cannot change your DNA.
- No COVID-19 vaccine contains animal products or eggs. The vaccines are suitable for vegans and are halal. The rubber stoppers of the vaccine vials do not contain latex.
- The National Department of Health and the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) are monitoring the safety of the vaccines as they are rolled out across the country.
- In the United States, an extremely rare side effect of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine was reported in 8 people of 7 million (0.0001%) who received the single dose. The side effect involved clots in unusual veins in the body (brain, abdomen) together with low levels of platelets.

### What is contained in the vaccine?

All COVID vaccines contain instructions for the spike protein on the coronavirus. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine contains an adenovirus which has been modified so that it cannot cause disease or multiply in humans. The vaccines naturally disintegrate within days after they have instructed your immune system to respond to the spike protein on the coronavirus. In addition, the Johnson and Johnson vaccine contains the following non-active ingredients:

- Sodium chloride
- Citric acid monohydrate buffer
- Polysorbate 80
- 2 hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (HBCD)
- Ethanol (absolute)
- Sodium hydroxide
- Water for injection

### Can I get the vaccine if I have symptoms of COVID or if I am in quarantine?

- If you currently are in quarantine because of exposure to someone with COVID, you should wait until you have completed your quarantine period, before getting vaccinated.
- If you have had COVID you should wait until 4 weeks after your symptoms started. If you have COVID symptoms on the day of your vaccination, you will be referred for a test and the vaccination will be rescheduled.



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Send the word **'REGISTER'** to **0600 123 456** on WhatsApp or dial **\*134\*832#**. For support to register, call **0860 142 142** or visit **www.westerncape.gov.za**  
(Information supplied by the Western Cape Department of Health)