



12 March 2021

Dear Colleague

### **COVID-19 VACCINATIONS UPDATE**

We are pleased to confirm that there has been further progress with the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine through the Sisonke trial, with many more of our staff and colleagues around the country receiving the vaccine since our last update. We are now approaching Phase 3 of the Sisonke roll-out, which will run from 15 – 29 March.

Mediclinic is encouraged by this progress and is excited to confirm that additional vaccination sites are now being added for phase 3 of the roll-out programme. Mediclinic Pietermaritzburg and Mediclinic Medforum have been included to participate as vaccine centres during week 5 and 6 of the roll-out. The National Department of Health determines the allocation of vaccination sites and the number of doses allocated to each site. This is in addition to Mediclinic Nelspruit and Mediclinic Upton that are already operating as vaccination sites in association with our colleagues who are successfully managing the other listed private sector sites. As this is a very staff and resource intensive process, our Business Improvement Department has developed a package to support new sites in relation to the process, staff and equipment. At each of these vaccination centres, the team will vaccinate their own risk stratified staff and those staff from hospitals in the catchment areas.

Some positive feedback with regards to the roll-out include our training and vaccination numbers. Nationally, more than 130 000 South African healthcare workers have received the vaccine. We can confirm that as of 11 March, at least 3 542 Mediclinic staff and associated healthcare professionals

have already received their vaccine. This number will be updated weekly via data obtained through the access control app. Once a staff member has indicated that they have been vaccinated, the system will record this response and the question will not be repeated.

To date, 216 vaccinators have been trained and have accounts on the EVDS system. We believe that larger numbers of vaccinators are needed, and this is being co-ordinated at hospital level by the applicable Learning and Development Facilitator. We also have 62 pharmacists who are currently undergoing the required GCP training to assist with the Sisonke trial. So far, we have provided assistance to vaccination sites where we have access to vaccines.

Mediclinic would like to assure all our staff and associated healthcare workers that we do all possible to drive the equitable roll-out of vaccine allocation to ensure that staff wanting to receive the vaccine will all have the opportunity to receive the vaccine. We also recognise that the roll-out process continues to undergo adjustments as lessons are learnt. The introduction of the risk stratification continues to be an essential step in ensuring this controlled, equitable distribution to all healthcare workers.

The progress of the roll-out continues to be reliant on local vaccine availability and access to Sisonke vouchers. Non-patient facing healthcare workers should not be vaccinated in the next few weeks, unless there is a possibility that the vaccines will be wasted (this will be managed at a local site level).

Healthcare workers who are working within these risk stratified units will be informed by their management team when their details have been uploaded in the EVDS. This can only be done after a hospital is linked to a vaccination site. After the upload an automatic SMS will be sent within 48 hours if you have not received one before. If you did not receive an SMS and have registered and been identified as high risk please follow the below process:

Visit the Sisonke website and enter your ID number here: <https://sisonke.samrc.ac.za/#/> (Google Chrome is the preferred browser). You will then receive one of three responses:

1. It will redirect you and ask you to verify your details – in that case confirm if the cell phone number is correct.
2. The response: 'You are not eligible but are on the EVDS system' will appear – in this case resend the ID number, contact details and occupation group to your site vaccine coordinator.
3. If you receive the response: 'Does not exist on the EVDS system' please register your ID number on <https://vaccine.enroll.health.gov.za/#/> and then send the ID number, contact details and occupation group to your site vaccine coordinator.

*(Where doctors are concerned practice and ID numbers should be resent.)*

Your site coordinator will collate the list and escalate it. We understand that the process to issue vouchers has experienced challenges. We are working with authorities to update any missing data and resolve issues as soon as possible.

In further news the National Department of Health has also indicated that the ratio of vaccine allocations has been adjusted to include out of hospital healthcare workers, who will now receive 6% of the vaccine allocations. This would include general practitioners, pathology laboratories, etc.

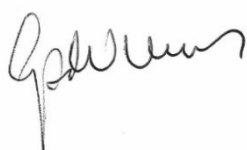
Out-of-hospital healthcare professionals (healthcare professionals not working in a Mediclinic or other private hospital) will have the opportunity to be vaccinated from 15 March 2021. Due to the limited vaccines available at present the first priority will be the following out-of-hospital healthcare professionals: specialists, dentists and technicians, physiotherapists and general practitioners. They

need to register on the [Vaccine for Healthcare Workers Portal](https://healthman.everlytic.net/public/messages/view-online/163bCGU2NGmY3DA3/RYSSt9ltuKIHi7p/d22f94b367f7ac49) (V4HCW) to initiate the process. For more information please use the following link: <https://healthman.everlytic.net/public/messages/view-online/163bCGU2NGmY3DA3/RYSSt9ltuKIHi7p/d22f94b367f7ac49>

We must again note that the vaccine roll-out is a dynamic process and therefore there may be changes implemented at short notice, as such we will ensure that we communicate the revised information as soon as received. It is also limited by the supply of vaccines, which is the biggest constraint.

Please continue to encourage colleagues and those around you to register for the vaccination roll-out. This is our best shot at overcoming the current pandemic.

Kind regards



**Dr Gerrit de Villiers**  
Chief Clinical Officer  
Mediclinic Southern Africa

#### **ADDENDUM**

The full list of vaccination sites for hospitals from week 5 to 6 will be as follows (subject to change):

<b>Mediclinic facility</b>	<b>Vaccination centre</b>
Mediclinic Bloemfontein	Life Rosepark
Mediclinic Brits	Brits Hospital
Mediclinic Cape Gate	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Cape Town	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Constantiaberg	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Durbanville	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Emfuleni	Ahmed Katharada Private Hospital
Mediclinic Ermelo	Ermelo Hospital
Mediclinic Gariep	Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital
Mediclinic Geneva	George Hospital
Mediclinic George	George Hospital
Mediclinic Heart Hospital	Mediclinic Medforum
Mediclinic Hermanus	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Highveld	Evander Hospital
Mediclinic Hoogland	Dihlabeng Regional Hospital
Mediclinic Kimberley	Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Hospital
Mediclinic Klein Karoo	George Hospital
Mediclinic Kloof	Mediclinic Medforum
Mediclinic Legae	Mediclinic Medforum
Mediclinic Lephalale	Ellisras Hospital

Mediclinic Limpopo	Netcare Pholoso
Mediclinic Louis Leipoldt	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Medforum	Mediclinic Medforum
Mediclinic Midstream	Mediclinic Medforum
Mediclinic Milnerton	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Morningside	Netcare Milpark
Mediclinic Muelmed	Mediclinic Medforum
Mediclinic Nelspruit	Mediclinic Nelspruit
Mediclinic Newcastle	NHN Lenmed La Verna Hospital
Mediclinic Paarl	Paarl Hospital
Mediclinic Panorama	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Pietermaritzburg	Mediclinic Pietermaritzburg
Mediclinic Plettenberg Bay	George Hospital
Mediclinic Sandton	Netcare Milpark
Mediclinic Secunda	Evander Hospital
Mediclinic Stellenbosch	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Thabazimbi	Thabazimbi Hospital
Mediclinic Tzaneen	Netcare Pholoso
Mediclinic Upington	Mediclinic Upington
Mediclinic Vereeniging	Ahmed Katharada Private Hospital
Mediclinic Vergelegen	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Victoria	Netcare St Augustine's
Mediclinic Winelands Orthopaedic Hospital	Gatesville Medical Centre
Mediclinic Worcester	Worcester Hospital
Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre	Netcare Milpark