



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO:
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES
DISTRICT AND PHC MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINE PROGRAMME MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATORS

INTERVAL BETWEEN SARS-COV-2 INFECTION AND COVID-19 VACCINATION

COVID-19 vaccines are effective, and provide protection against COVID-19 infection. Individuals with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection should still be vaccinated if they are in the eligible population. These individuals should be vaccinated regardless if their SARS-CoV-2 infection was symptomatic, asymptomatic or resulted in prolonged post COVID-19 symptoms.

Testing for SARS-CoV-2 infection before COVID-19 vaccination is not recommended. Studies conducted on the COVID-19 vaccines indicate these vaccines can safely be given to individuals with a history of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, if an individual is known to have had SARS-CoV-2 infection, the recommended minimum interval between the SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 vaccination is 30 days.

The minimum interval between SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 vaccination applies to individuals who experience SARS-CoV-2 infection before the first dose of COVID-19 vaccination, or after the first dose and before the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

DR N CRISP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE
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