



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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INTERNAL MEMO

Date:	15 December 2020		
To:	Minister ZL Mkhize, Honourable Minister of Health	From:	Prof B Schoub: Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) on COVID-19 Vaccines

<p>ADVISORY FRAMEWORK FOR RATIONAL ALLOCATION OF COVID-19 VACCINE IN SOUTH AFRICA</p>

Problem Statement

Efficacy results from the Phase 3 Covid-19 vaccine trials are becoming available and more are expected in late 2020 / early 2021 and beyond. To date five vaccine trials have reported preliminary efficacy data ranging from 62–95%. In addition, the data suggest that these vaccines have no significant adverse events attributed to them.

Assuming that one or more of these vaccines are approved by SAHPRA, it is unlikely that there will be sufficient vaccines available for use beyond specific high-risk groups in the country before the end of the second quarter of 2021 and even then it is likely that only limited quantities of vaccine will be available.

Rationale

Vaccine allocation will thus have to be based on a framework of prioritisation and need. The principles underpinning this Framework emphasises an evidence based approach and an ethical and moral perspective, including an African indigenous values context.

The Framework will serve as a guide and will have to be adapted as new scientific information becomes available e.g.:

- information about specific characteristics of available vaccine/s,
- the benefit-risk assessment for different population sub-groups,
- the amount and pace of vaccine supply,
- the epidemiology at the time of vaccine introduction,
- clinical management,
- public health response, and
- economic and social impact of the pandemic.

Recommendation

The Ministerial Advisory Committee on Vaccines recommends to the honourable Minister of Health the adoption of the Framework for the Rational Allocation of Covid-19 Vaccines in South Africa.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Kind regards,



PROFESSOR BARRY SCHOUB

CHAIRPERSON: MINISTERIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 VACCINES

DATE: 15 December 2020

CC:

- » **Dr S Buthelezi (Director-General)**
- » **Dr T Pillay (Deputy Director-General: Health Regulations and Compliance Management)**

