

DIGITAL CONFERENCE

Health Update

Dr K Cloete

4 February 2021



Overview

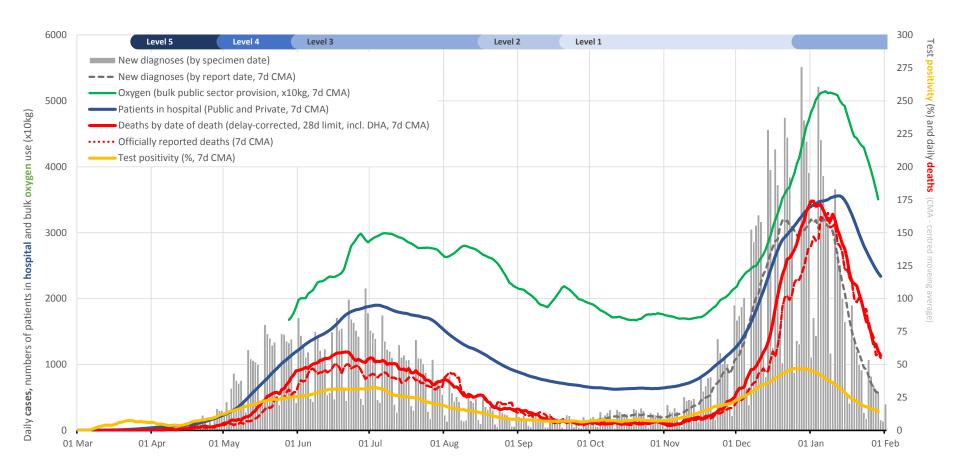
- 1. Surveillance & Response Update
- 2. Health platform COVID response
- 3. Well-being of health care workers
- 4. Vaccine strategy
- 5. Conclusions



Surveillance & Response Update



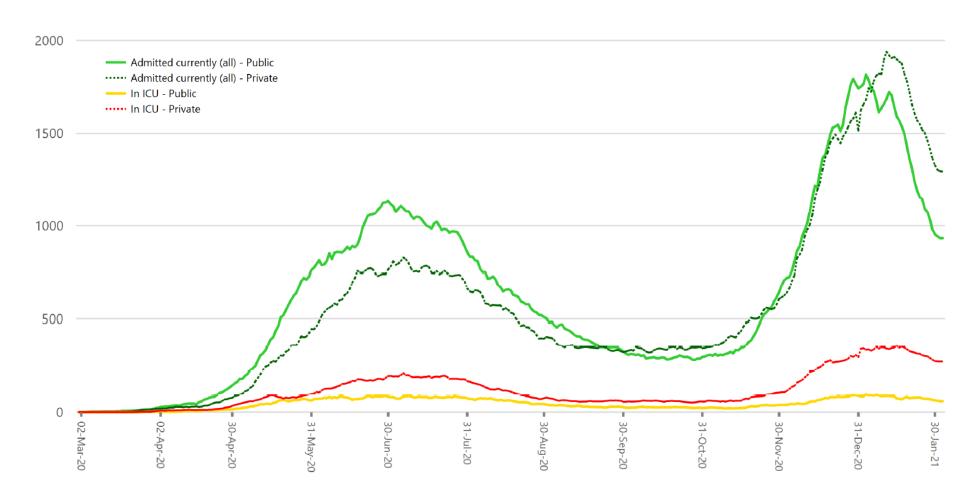
Integrated testing, case, hospitalisation and mortality trends





Hospitalisation trends of patients with confirmed SARS-CoV-2

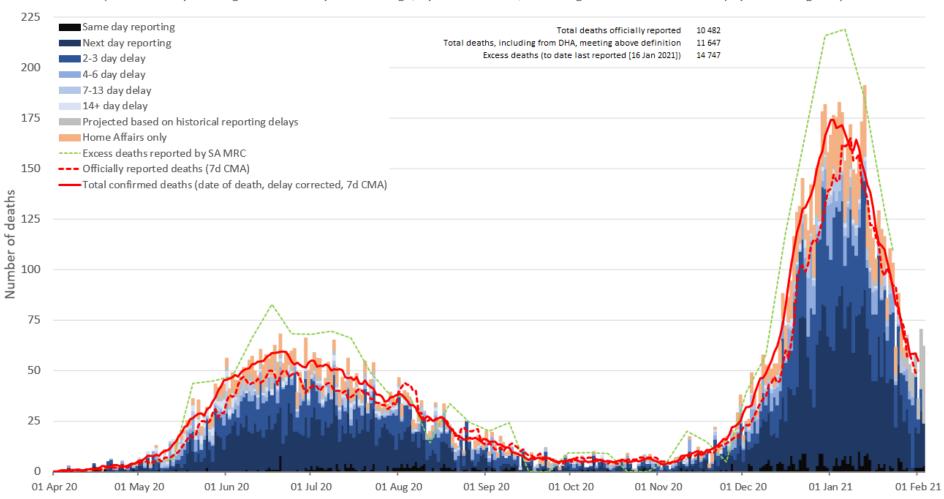
(including specialised hospitals, excluding PUIs)





Mortality by date of death

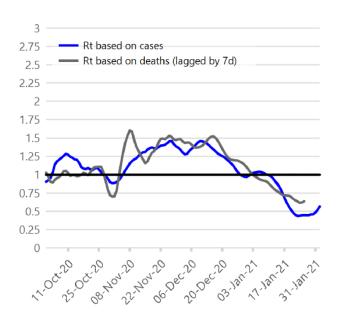
Mortality in patients with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2, by delay to reporting* (within 28 days of diagnosis or 14 days of discharge, by date of death, excluding non-natural deaths on population register)



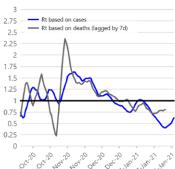
^{*} Excludes patients who die following clinical diagnoses of COVID-19 in spite of absent or false negative SARS-CoV-2 test results, and those without recorded ID numbers dying at home or in ambulatory or emergency room care CMA - centred moving average

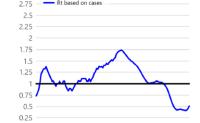
Current reproduction number

Province



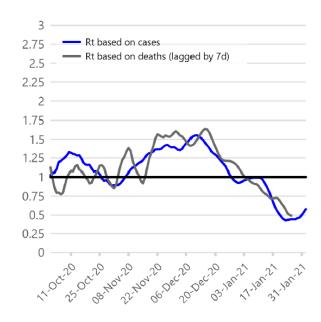
Garden route





Cape Winelands

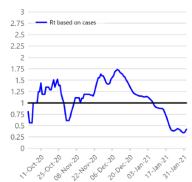
Metro



West Coast

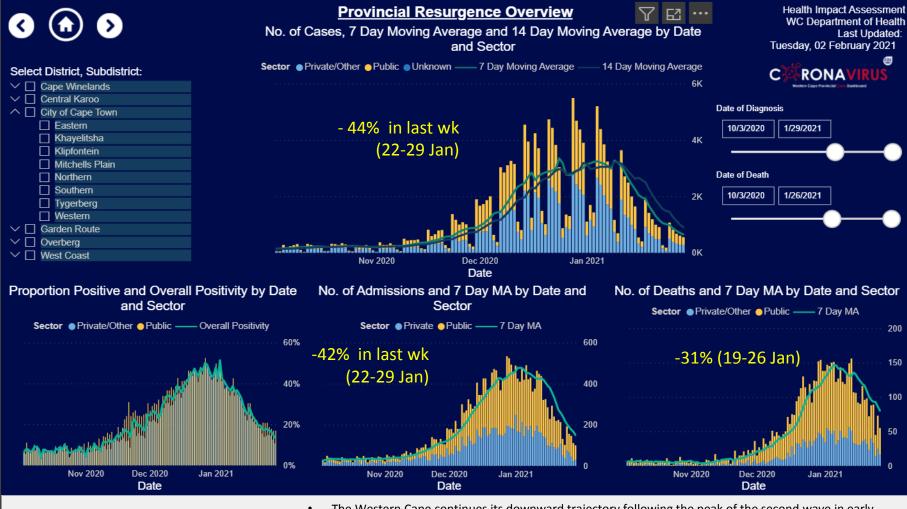


Overberg



Approximated based on smoothed doubling times



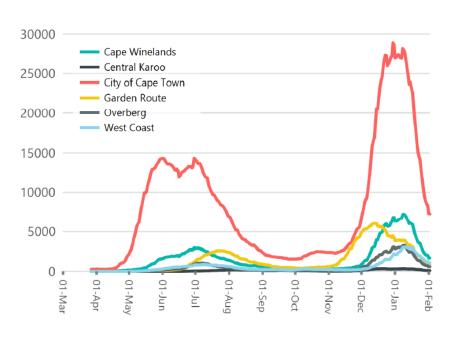


Provincial Overview

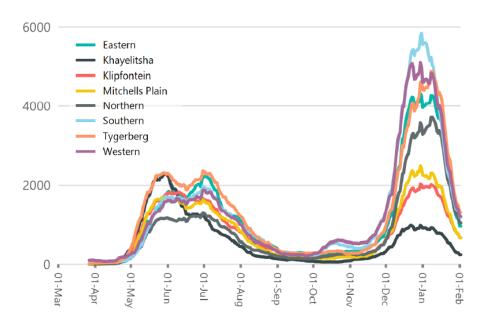
- The Western Cape continues its downward trajectory following the peak of the second wave in early January 2021.
- Using 7 day moving averages, confirmed cases have declined a further 44%, while admissions and deaths have dropped by 42% and 31% respectively.
- The proportion positive has dropped further to 13.47% on 29 January 2021.
- The province is heading towards levels seen prior to the second wave (late October) and may reach this at some point next week.
- While all data are pointing downwards, and we are relieved, we must take note that admissions and deaths are still high. The health system is still under pressure and everyone in the Western Cape is still at risk.

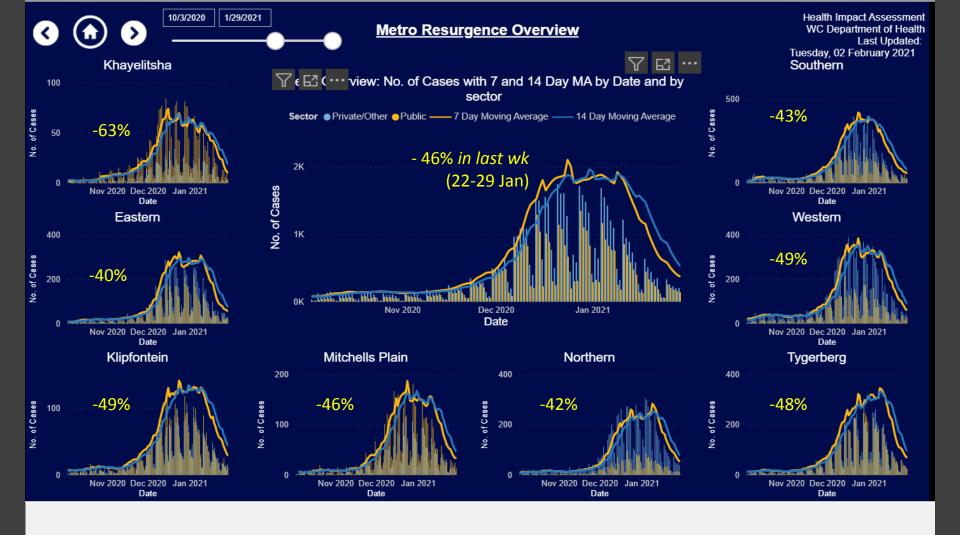
Active cases

Districts



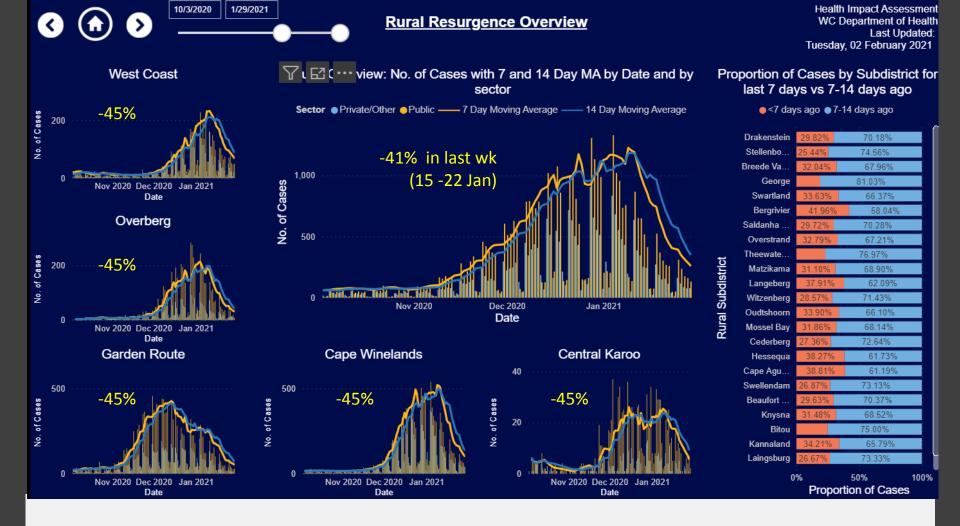
Cape Town subdistricts





Metro Overview

- Cases in the Metro decreased by 46% from 22-29 January 2021.
- All sub-districts show a marked decrease in cases as the Metro approaches levels seen before the second wave.



Rural Overview

Cases in Rural have declined by 41%, and the pattern is repeated across all districts.

As with the Metro, cases in Rural are also heading towards pre-second wave levels.

Triangulating with wastewater

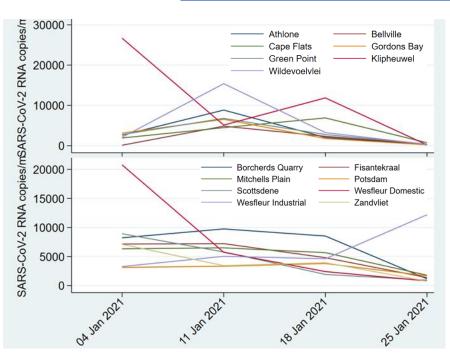




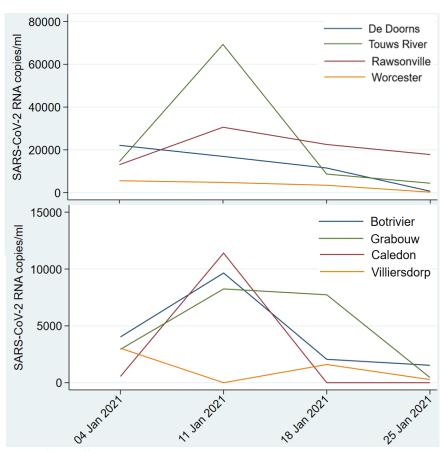
SAMRC COVID- 19 AND WASTEWATER EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

WEEK 2021

City of Cape Town, Breede Valley AND Overberg



Metro: Decrease in SARS CoV-2 RNA across all treatment plants except Wesfleur Industrial

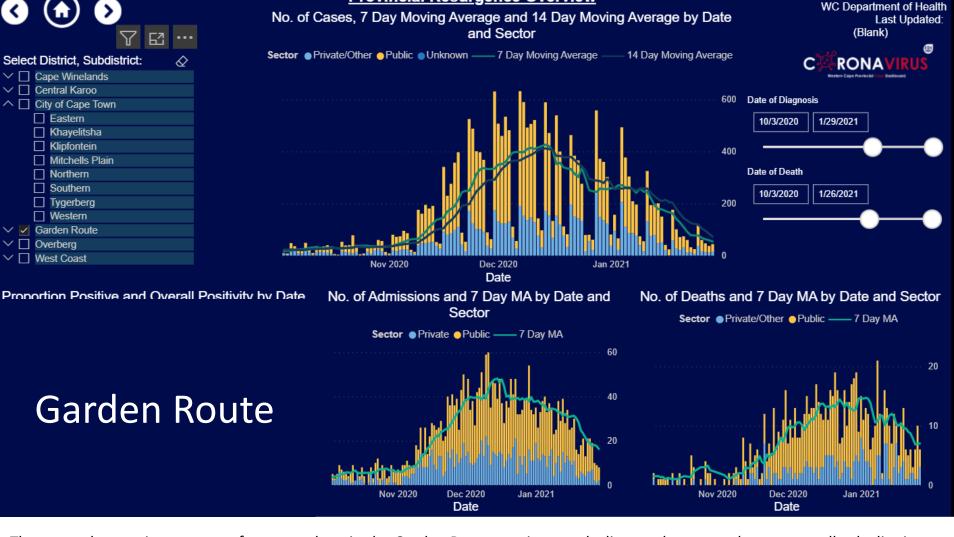


Breede Valley:

Decrease across all areas but levels in Rawsonville relatively high (>17,796 copies/ml)

Theewaterskloof:

Decrease in all areas; no SARS-CoV-2 detected in Caledon



The seven day moving average of case numbers in the Garden Route continue to decline, and case numbers across all sub-districts are on a downward trajectory.

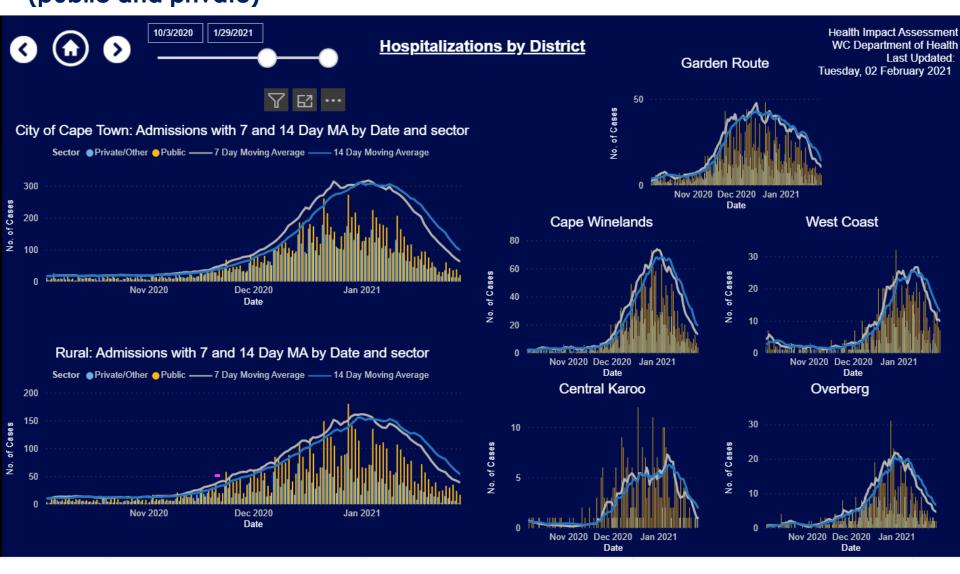
Hospitalisations and deaths are on a steady downward trajectory.

These data are re-assuring, but citizens must continue to protect themselves.

The health platform COVID response



Hospital Admissions By Health District (public and private)





Hospital admissions have passed the peak and are declining in all districts.

Acute service platform – general comments

- 1. Currently 2330 COVID patients in our acute hospitals (1398 in public hospitals & 932 in private hospitals). This excludes PUIs and cases in specialised hospital settings.
- 2. COVID hospitalisations have continued to decline whilst the trauma cases has remained significantly lower than usual.
- 3. The Metro hospitals have an average occupancy rate of 79%; George drainage area hospitals at 59%; Paarl drainage area hospitals at 71% & Worcester drainage area hospitals at 63%.
- 4. Occupancies in COVID beds show **Metro** hospitals at **38%**; **George** drainage area hospitals at **34%**; **Paarl** drainage area hospitals at **55%**; **Worcester** drainage area hospitals at **33%**.
- 5. COVID & PUI cases currently make up 18% of all available acute general hospital capacity in both Metro and Rural Regional Hospital drainage areas.
- 6. COVID inter-mediate care the Hospital of Hope (Brackengate) currently has 82 patients (3 131 cumulative patients), Freesia & Ward 99 has 34 patients, Mitchell Plain hospital of hope has 61 patients and Sonstraal currently has 48 patients.
- 7. The Metro mass fatality centre has capacity for 240 bodies; currently 24 decedents (cumulative total of 1257 bodies) admitted. The overall capacity has been successfully managed across the province.

Acute Care Availability & Utilisation per Drainage Area



WCDOH: Daily Operational Bed Status Dashboard as at 02/02/2021

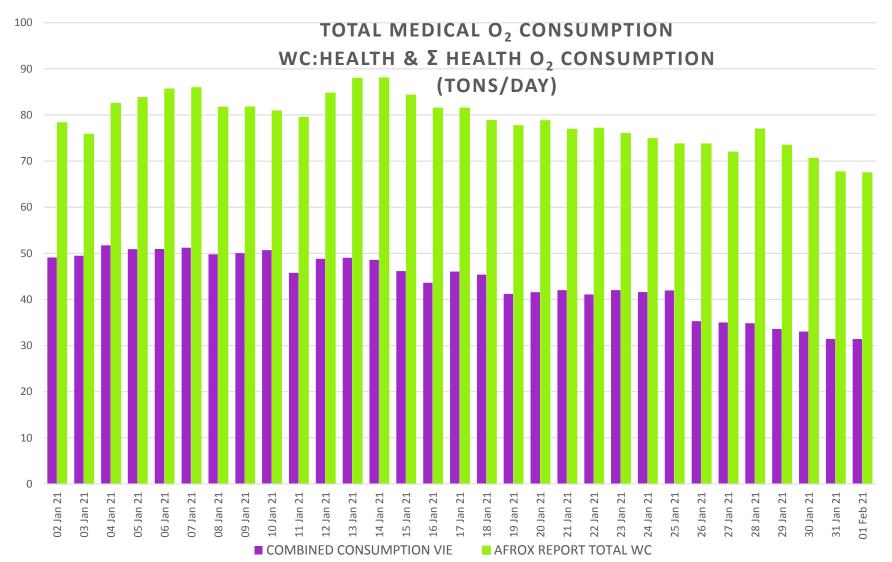
Drainage Area	Operational Beds	Filled Beds	BUR %	COVID BUR %	% Covid patients	BUR % for Designated Covid Beds(General Wards)	BUR % for Designated Covid Beds(Critical Care)
Cape Town /Metro	5 056	3 979	79%	38%	16%	37%	81%
George	913	541	59%	34%	20%	31%	75%
Paarl	960	681	71%	55%	23%	49%	192%
Worcester	783	495	63%	33%	25%	33%	40%
SubTotal WCDOH	7 712	5 696	74%	39%	18%	37%	81%

Excluding Specialised Hospitals e.g. Mowbray Maternity, Psychiatric Hospitals, etc

Operational Bed = an inpatient bed available for inpatient use that is staffed and equipped.



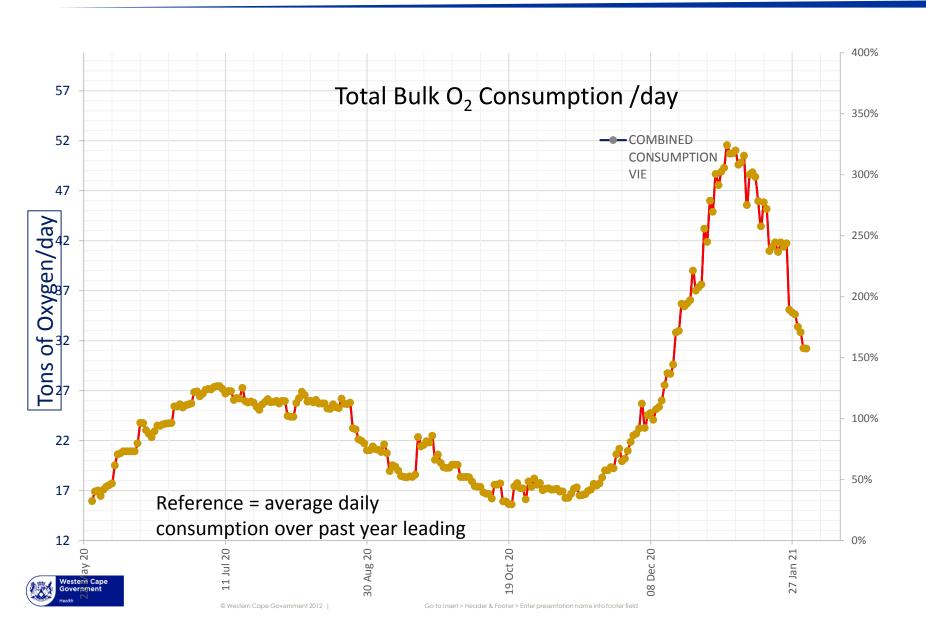
Daily oxygen consumption over past month – tons/day





© Western Cape Government 2012 |

Public Sector oxygen consumption trend - tons/day



Oxygen utilisation – general comments

- 1. The combined oxygen utilisation in the Western Cape Public and private hospital sectors is 67.46 tons/day (after a peak of >80 tons/day).
- 2. The combined public- private utilisation is now below the maximal production capacity of 70 tons/day at the Afrox Western Cape plant.
- 3. The public sector **daily bulk oxygen** consumption is **47.89%** of the Kuilsriver plant for the 7 day period ending 1st February (compared to **70.56%** for the period ending 15th January at our peak oxygen consumption).
- The department's total bulk oxygen consumption has reduced to around 31.41 tons daily when compared to 51 tons daily in the first week of January.
- 5. The Western Cape now have **4 bulk oxygen tankers** allocated for the daily delivery of oxygen supplies during this week.
- 6. We will **continue to monitor the utilisation of oxygen** over the coming weeks, but **the situation** has completely **stabilised**.



Safe-guarding well-being of health care workers





Number of Staff Infected

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW HEALTHCARE WORKERS INFECTED WITH COVID-19 - DAILY TRENDS

Totals as at 04 Feb 2021

Cumulative Infections

8,700



8,345

Daily Staff Infection Trends



114

Active Cases

241

Doctors

28

Nurses



108

Radiographers



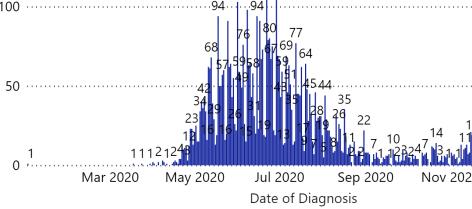
Pharmacists

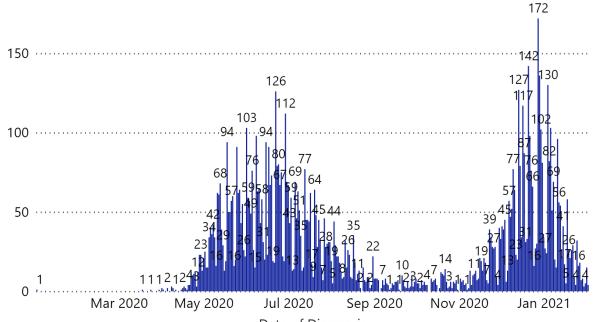


(Blank)

Other Categories

101



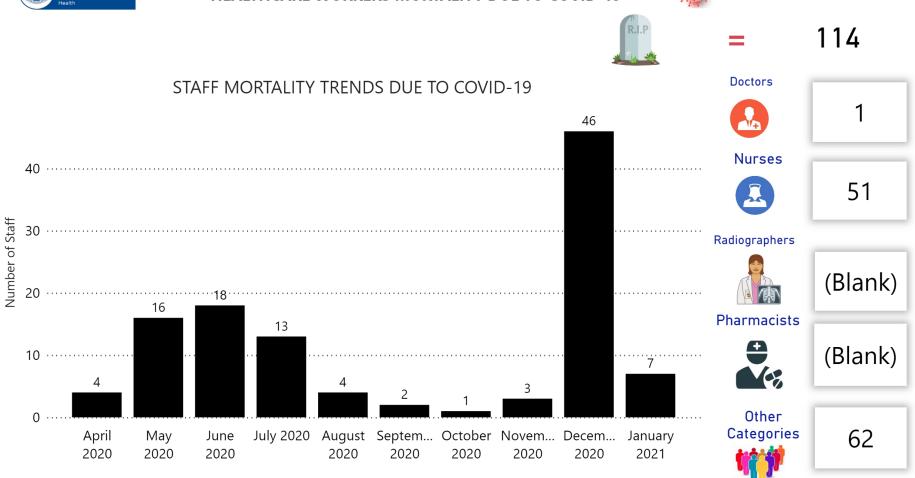




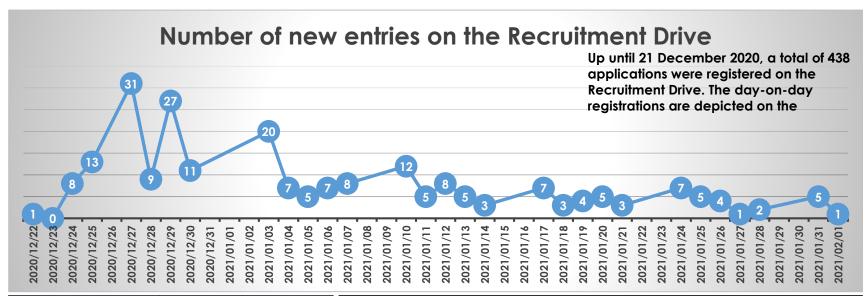
DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW HEALTHCARE WORKERS MORTALITY DUE TO COVID-19



Totals as at 04 Feb 2021



High Level Summary on Recruitment Drive



Category of HCW	Possibly Available	Appointed on PERSAL
MO	142	22
Enrolled Nurse(EN)	102	12
Enrolled Nursing Auxiliary (ENA)	119	14
Not Indicated	29	5
Professional Nurse	126	50
Professional Nurse with Specialty	36	8
	554	111

Institutions have made 297 Offers to the following categories of staff:

OSD-Category Rank	Filled	Reserved Posts	Grand Total
Allied Health	19	7	26
Doctors	66	23	89
Nursing	652	253	905
Pharmacists	5	1	6
Pharmacists-			
Assistant	10	1	11
Social Workers	7	1	8
Admin and Related	144	11	155
Grand Total	903	297	1200

There are currently 903 filled posts across the platform for additional COVID posts, 297 offers are pending finalization which will bring the total to 1200. Of the 665 Recruitment Drive applicants, 111 has thus far been appointed on PERSAL. The balance of which 554 are possibly available for appointment.



© Western Cape Government 2012 | 24

Vaccine Implementation update



Aims of COVID-19 vaccine in South Africa

- 1. Prevent severe illness and death
- 2. Reduce transmission
- 3. Protect our health system

As at 1 February 2021, **98.3 million** shots of COVID-19 vaccine had been given, **31.8 million** in **the USA**.

(www.bloomberg.com)

https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/covid-vaccine-tracker-global-distribution/

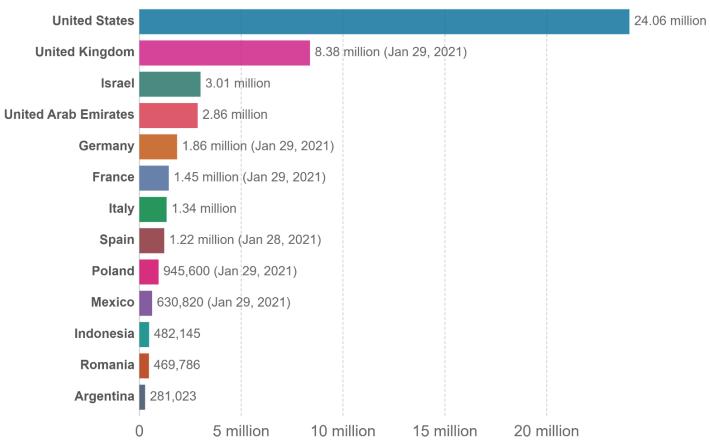


Current vaccine distribution (as at 1 Feb - 98 million doses given - Bloomberg.com)

Number of people who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, Jan 30, 2021



Total number of people who received at least one vaccine dose. This may not equal the number of people that are fully vaccinated if the vaccine requires two doses.





Why Covid-19 Vaccine?

The most promising approach for curbing the pandemic:

- > COVID-19 vaccines is the only safe route back to normality
- Without a vaccine there will always be a risk that new outbreaks will emerge
 - - g fransmission → decreased morbidity and mortality (herd munity)
 - o Decreasing additional Covid burden on health care system
 - Relaxing of national and international public health regulations
 - Opening of local and international economies

Herd Immunity

Herd immunity describes a type of immunity that occurs when the vaccination of a portion of the population (or herd) provides protection to unvaccinated individuals.

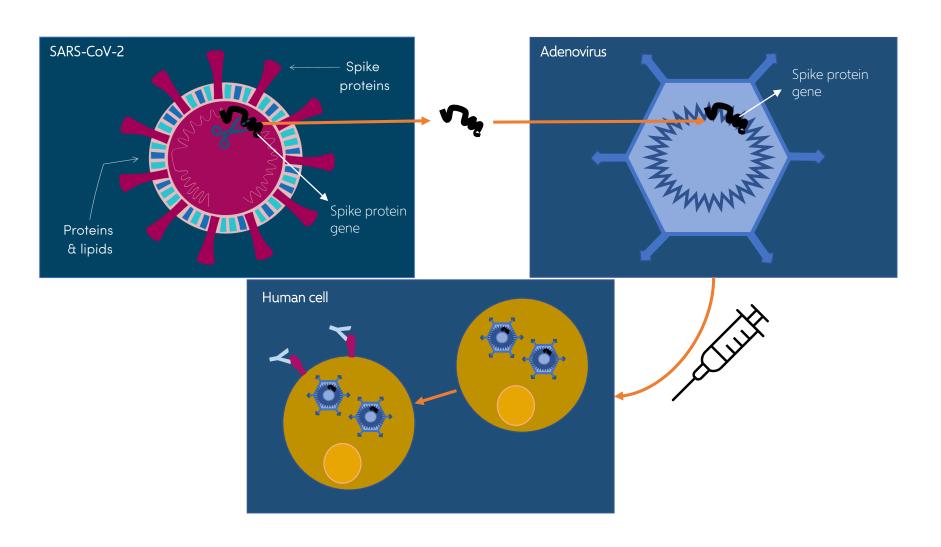
Hence the need to get to a critical mass of individuals in the population to be vaccinated to offer protection to everyone.



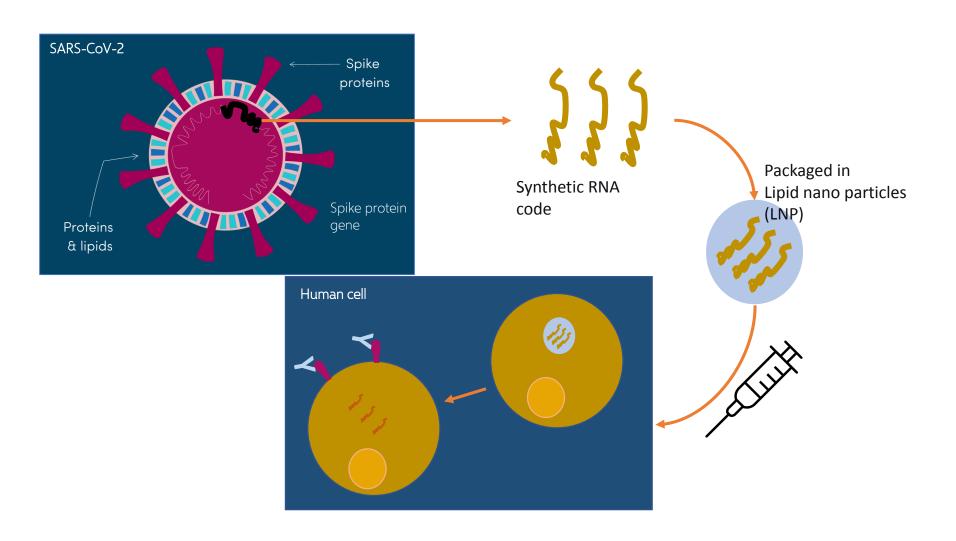
Vaccines with available efficacy results

Vaccine	Efficacy	_	Efficacy in high- risk groups	Dose regimen	Comments
Biontech/ Pfizer/ Cominarty	95%		Yes, older age groups	2 doses	NEJM published
Moderna	94%		Yes, older age groups	2 doses	NEJM published
Oxford/ Astrazeneca/ Covishield	62.1-90%		Older age groups >55, HIV not known	2 standard doses or Low/high dose	Lancet published
Sinopharm (Beijing Strain)	86%	100%		2 doses	News reports
Sinovac (coronavac)	50.4 - 91.2%	100%		2 doses	News reports
Sputnik V	91.40%	100%		2 doses	Sputnik V website
Novavax	49-89%	(yes but small numbers)	? HIV persons	2 doses	News reports/ 66% in HIV negative persons
Johnson and Johnson	66% (57 - 72%)	85%		1 dose	News reports

How does a viral vector vaccine (Oxford/ AstraZeneca, J&J, Sputnik 5) work?



How does mRNA vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna) work?



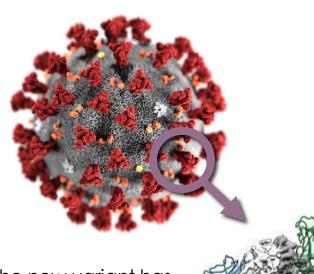
Was the vaccine development rushed?

What were the reasons that the vaccine was developed so quickly?

- The Chinese scientists made the genome (genetic material) of the virus available globally
 in January so multiple organisations could start working on developing vaccines at the
 same time.
- The phases of clinical trials were combined so that the vaccines could progress more quickly through the clinical development process.
- Huge amount of resources/ funding was made available to develop the vaccines so that
 many scientists could work on this and many scientific tasks could take place more
 quickly than would normally be the case.
- There were many cases of disease occurring over a short period which made testing the vaccine easier.
- Scientists built on previous efforts to develop vaccines for SARS and MERS-CoV which are both caused by coronaviruses.



Will the vaccine work against the new variant 501.V2?



The new variant has small changes in the make-up and shape of the spike protein on the virus.

 Scientists are hopeful because the vaccine targets the entire spike protein.

 A definitive answer will be available in mid-late February from the South African trial.

Laboratory studies are also underway.

 Worst case scenario is the vaccine would need to be modified (like the flu vaccine).

Other vaccines are reported to have some efficacy against the new variant



Vaccines on order – NDoH update

- Covishield 1.5 million doses Feb 2021
- Pfizer doses and arrival date to be confirmed
- Covax 10% of SA population Covax released information on the global volume allocation by country:
 - Pfizer/BioNTech total doses to be confirmed that are for the Q1 supply- based on conditions:
 indemnity, regulatory
 - AstraZeneca / SKBio total doses to be confirmed. Delivery subject to WHO EUL, with 25-35% available in Q1 and 65-75% available in Q2 based on conditions: indemnity, regulatory
- Johnson and Johnson doses and arrival dates to be confirmed. Opportunity
 to access additional doses being negotiated, awaiting feedback.

The goal is to vaccinate 40 million South Africans



Confirmation of allocated 1st doses to the Western Cape

Categories	Confirmed 1st doses
1. WCG: Health	35 000
2. Private Sector	58 584
3. Other (including City Health, outsourced	In process of being
workers, CHWs, students, undertakers, other	finalised
Departments, traditional healers, etc.)	

There is a commitment that **2nd doses are guaranteed** from the **same**Covishield allocation

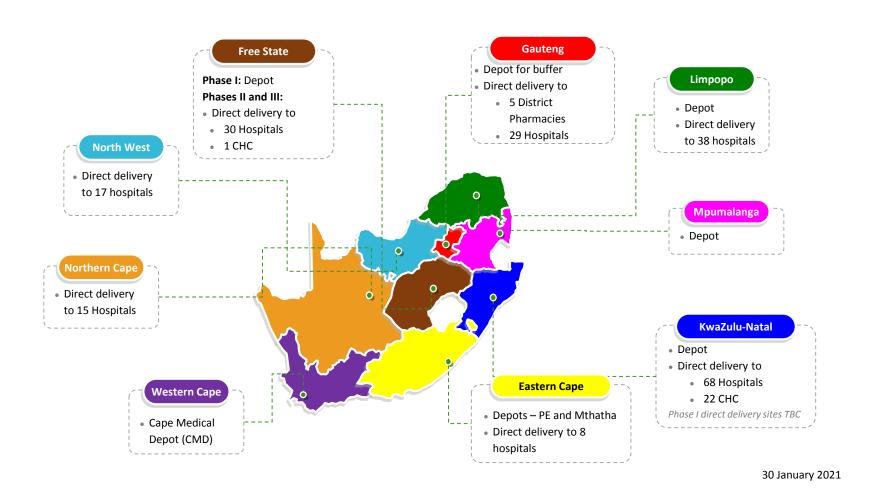


Western Cape Contingency Plan for vaccine acquisition

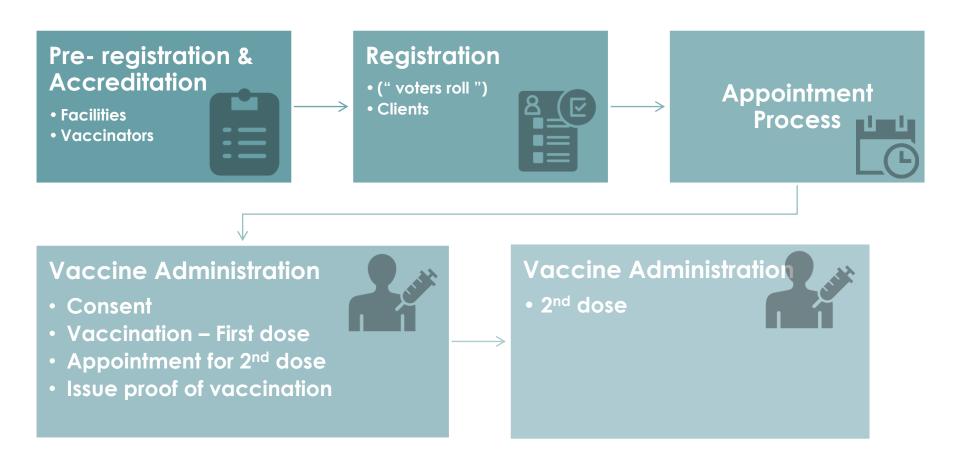
- WCG Cabinet approved a framework for provincial contingency vaccine acquisition
 (including procurement), to supplement the National procurement/acquisition plan, as
 necessary and possible.
- Contingency vaccine acquisition must remain within the core parameters of the national and provincial vaccination programme. It should be:
 - a) Driven by **clinical and professional ethics**, in terms of both vaccine selection and the phasing of the roll-out (rationing);
 - b) Subject to the necessary regulatory requirements of SAPHRA and the Medicine Control Council (MCC);
 - c) Coordinated with National efforts, through regular and transparent communication with NDoH and National Treasury and contribution to the overall stock of vaccines available in South Africa.
- 3. The **key elements** of the contingency plan are:
 - a) appropriate **governance enablement**;
 - b) a sourcing strategy that will cover demand forecasting and planning, market analysis and appropriate procurement design.



Primary Distribution Plan Status



Functional processes





Above processes supported by adequate supplies, infrastructure, skilled people and data systems

Vaccine implementation update (1)

- 1. We have developed an **Implementation Framework** for the roll-out programme which will be posted on the **WCG: Health website**.
- 2. 1 million doses arrived in the country on 01 February 2021.
- 3. The quality control process (NCL testing) as required by SAPHRA will be accelerated.
- 4. The **Biovac Institute** will be responsible for **distribution of the vaccines** to provinces.
- 5. The vaccines are **anticipated to arrive within the next 5-10 days** within provinces.
- 6. In the **Western Cape**, the **Central Medical Depot (CMD)** will distribute vaccines to WCG: Health facilities, private sector facilities and COCT facilities.
- 7. The plan is to officially start on 15 Feb 2021



Vaccine implementation update(2): Phases and Prioritisation Groups

Phase I

- Health Care Workers:
 - Public & Private Health Sectors
 - Care Workers
 - CHWs
 - Health Science students
 - Traditional Healers
- Estimated target:
 - 133 000

Phase II

- Essential Workers
- Clients in congregate settings
- Older than 60 Years
- Older than 18 yrs with Co-morbidities
- Estimated target :
 - 2m

Phase III

• Older than 18 years

- Estimated target :
 - 2,9m





Vaccine implementation update (3): Phases and Prioritisation Groups

- The allocation of doses to provinces is being finalised nationally.
 - The Covishield vaccine will be used for both doses to each health care worker.
 - > There will be some **prioritisation** required within phase I to accommodate **the sequencing in line with the available doses**.

 Some of the considerations include:



Vaccine implementation update (4): Master Facility List

- Master Facility List (Vaccination Sites):
 - 378 public facilities and 41 private vaccination sites have been identified which must be accredited as per a national checklist.
 - Curators and facility representatives are receiving training on the Master Facilities List and will ensure that all vaccination sites are verified and curated.

 The HCW registers are being finalised (beneficiary register) for PERSAL and non-PERSAL staff.



Vaccine implementation update (5): Administration Sites

Vaccine Administration Sites (Public sector)

District	No. of sites
Metro (WCGH + COCT)	154
Cape Winelands	56
Central Karoo	17
Garden Route	85
Overberg	25
West Coast	36
Central Hospitals	3
Other (CDU, WCBTS)	2
Total	378



Vaccine implementation update (6): Distribution Plan

Central Medical Depot

- Deliver to 41 private vaccination sites
- Deliver to 378 public facilities (including City Health facilities)
- Courier in place and dedicated to this, to ensure alignment to vaccine programme start date
- Distribution will take place within 5 10 working days from being received.

 SAPS and Law enforcement are being briefed as things move to ensure safe-guarding of vaccines on route



Vaccine implementation update (7): SCM

- 93 Vaccine Friendly fridges due for delivery this week
- Generators assessment has been conducted and portable generators are on standby
- Consumable orders placed and received (needles, syringes, cooler boxes)
- PPE adequate
- Vaccine cards designed and procurement commenced against an existing contract
- Vaccines will be dispatched with the following:
 - All related consumables
 - Vaccine cards
 - Information sheets



Vaccine implementation update (8): Training for Vaccinators

- Training of vaccinators will commence on 02 February 2021 by Provincial PDC. Over 1995 vaccinators ready for training and 500 applicants to be loaded.
- This will be the biggest training intervention launched by the People
 Development Centre to date and will include staff from WCGH, CoCT,
 NGOs and private sector.
- Training will focus on handling, storage, research, special considerations, product information and data management aspects, aligned to NDoH and WHO criteria for inclusion.
- The training programme includes a virtual online training package in both SD and HD format to allow access on mobile devices and computers.



Vaccine implementation update (9): Training for Vaccinators

TRAINING PROGRAMME		
TRAINING INTERVENTION	MODE OF DELIVERY	TARGET GROUP
COVID-19 VACCINE TRAINING	3,5-hour podcast, available via online link or flash drive (Stellmed and PDC)	vaccinatorsteam managerssupport staff (e.g., pharmacy)
WEEKLY SHORT UPDATE TRAINING CHECK-INS	MS Teams (PDC and content experts)	 Vaccinators team managers support staff (e.g., pharmacy) NOTE: Alternatively, one member of the COVID-19 vaccine team will update the rest of the team members.
COVID-19 INFORMATION SESSIONS	Online / Presentation by the Knowledge Translation Unit with the support of the Communications Directorate	All Health Care Workers



Vaccine implementation Update (10)

Early discussions have started about planning for Phase II and III

- Massive logistic scale-up required
- High volume vaccination centres will need to be explored
- WCG will formalise engagement with the private sector
- Parallel planning for the logistics and social mobilisation for Phase 2
 & 3 is critical, as Phase 1 is being implemented.



Vaccine implementation Update (11) - Next steps

Finalise non-PERSAL beneficiary list:

- All individual names are being uploaded on Sharepoint, and being verified with the NDoH colleagues
- Confirmation required from all sources

Engage Private Sector:

- Met with National B4SA team
- Western Cape team will be formalised

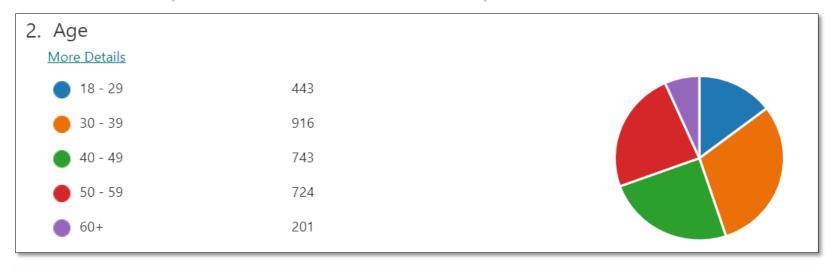
Set-up Phase 2 & 3 planning co-ordination:

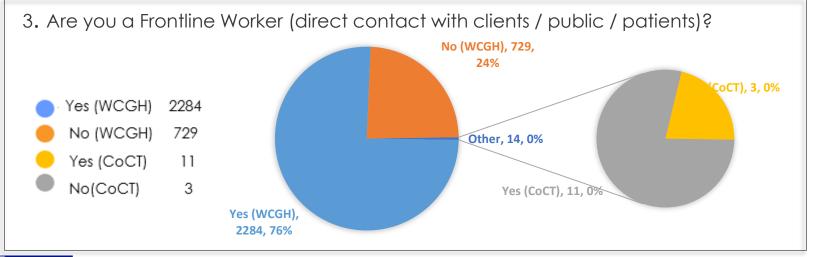
- Exploratory meetings held with City and IEC already
- Formal committee to be authorised next week



Staff Readiness: Rapid Poll Results

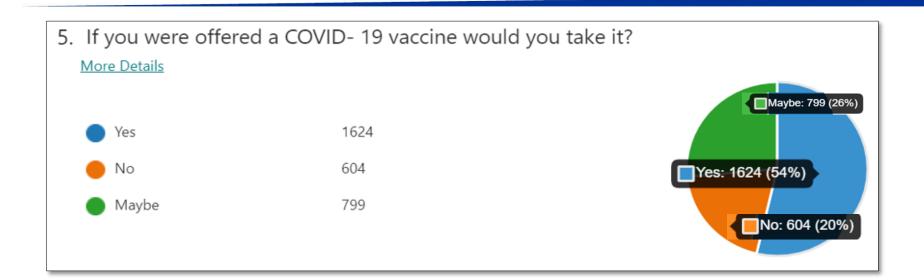
Number of respondents at the time of Report: 3027







Staff Opinion Poll



Getting to "Yes" – Build the Credibility and Trust

- Continue supplying credible information about the vaccines (science and safety)
- Clarifying processes and localising the information to address the hesitancy
- Engaging with trusted influencers within communities



Communication



QUALITY INFORMATION: GOOD SET
OF TOOLS TO BE USED INTERNALLY
AND EXTERNALLY (TO FORM THE
FOUNDATION OF DISCOURSE) E.G.
FAQ/INFO SHEET AND VOICE-OVER
SLIDE PRESENTATION



INSPIRE TRUST THROUGH

ADVOCACY AND INFO SHARING:

THROUGH A RANGE OF EXPERT

VOICES AND "LOCAL" TRUSTED

PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE HEALTH

SYSTEM. NOT A PUNITIVE

APPROACH, BUT RESPECTFUL AND

REASONABLE, YET HOPEFUL



FEEDBACK AND BE OPEN AND
RESPONSIVE: ALWAYS GIVE
ADEQUATE TIME IN SESSIONS FOR
LISTENING AND CAPTURING
FEEDBACK TO ENSURE WE MAINTAIN
A DIALOGUE. COUNTER
POLARIZATION, WHILE ACCEPTING
WE WILL NOT WIN ALL

Tools that can help



Coronavirus web page with resources

 https://coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za/covid-19-vaccination



Covid-19 Vaccination Fact Sheet

COVID-19 VACCINATION FACT SHEET

GENERAL INFORMATION

How do the COVID-19 vaccines work?

There are many different COVID-19 vaccines available and in development and they use different approaches to engaging your immune system. There is no live virus in any of the vaccines. These vaccines contain 'instructions' for the spike protein of the virus, which triggers the immune system to recognise the invading virus and also to produce antibodies to

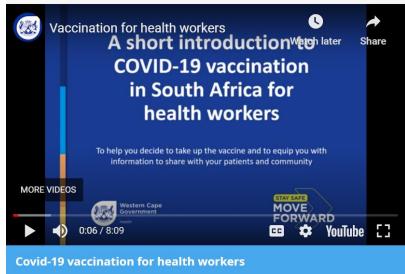
January 2021 V.I

Tools that can help





Slideshow with basic science info and voice







Local and trusted voices must be heard and amplified



Gesondheidswerkers oor COVID-19-inenting

"Jy moet jouself afvra 'wat kan ek doen' om lewens te red. My eenvoudige antwoord sou wees: Inenting. Deur dit te doen, sal ek nie net myself beskerm nie, maar ook diegene rondom my."

 Andre Lindoor, Social Work Supervisor, Tygerberg Hospital





Health workers on COVID-19 Vaccination

"By simply taking a vaccine, will protect and prevent us as Healthcare workers from many dangerous infectious diseases, which we daily encounter in our work environment.

If you are vaccinated it will stop the spread of disease to the larger community. The more people that are vaccinated the fewer opportunities the disease have to spread."

Melody Camelo, Operation Manager for Nursing, Groote Schuur Hospital







Conclusions



Concluding remarks

- 1. We have passed the peak of the 2nd wave in the Western Cape, with clear and consistent signs of decline in cases, hospitalisation and deaths.
- 2. Our **local teams** remain on **high alert for surveillance & response** to localised clusters, **especially for the vulnerable**.
- 3. We should remain vigilant and continue to **adhere to protective behaviours to** reduce new cases while restrictions are lifted in a phased manner.
- 4. Our health care workers have faced significant mental and emotional strain.

 We have started an intentional process of grieving and healing.
- 5. It is essential to maintain a **strong focus on behaviour change** to ensure containment for the **coming months**, as we gear up access to **vaccines**.
- 6. We should gear up the **implementation of vaccines** as the **key drive against**COVID over the coming months.



Thank you

