

Digital Press Conference

Health Update

S Kariem

24 February 2021



Overview

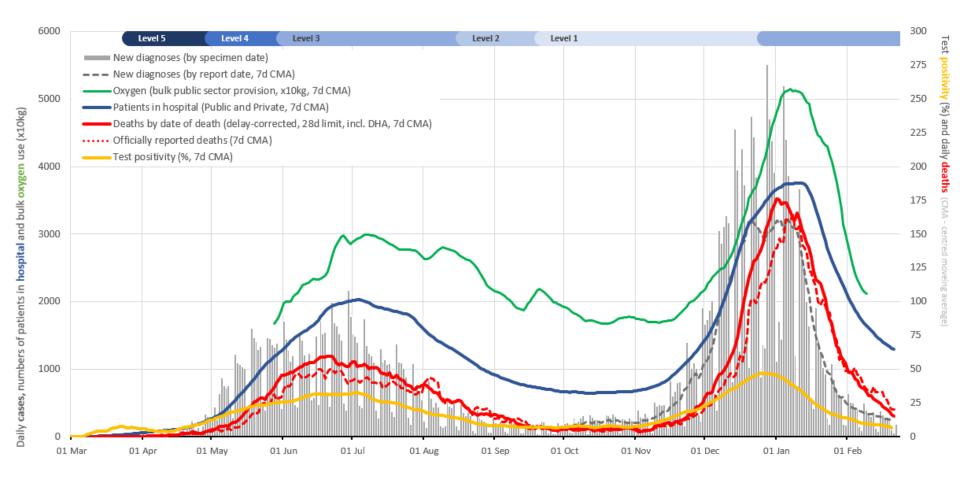
- 1. Surveillance & Response Update
- 2. Health platform COVID response
- 3. Well-being of health care workers
- 4. Vaccine strategy
- 5. Conclusions



Surveillance & Response Update



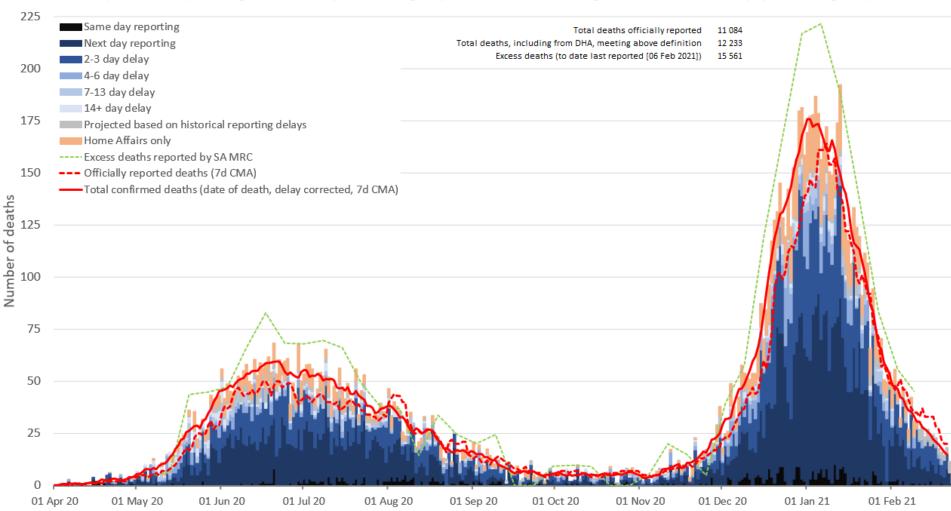
Integrated testing, case, hospitalisation and mortality trends





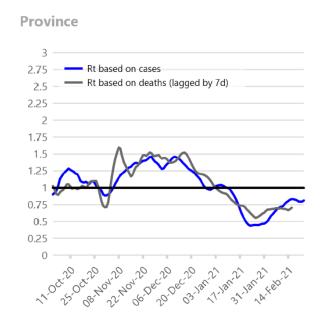
Mortality by date of death

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)

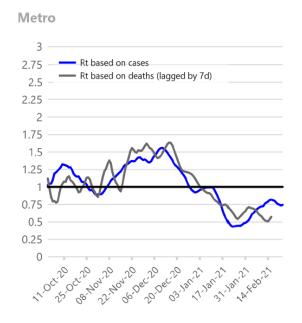


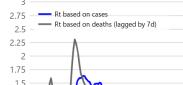
^{*} Excludes deaths in those with undiagnosed COVID-19, in patients with clinical diagnoses in spite of absent or false negative SARS-CoV-2 test results, and in those without recorded ID numbers dying at home or in ambulatory or emergency room care; CMA - centred moving average

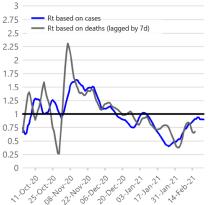
Current reproduction number



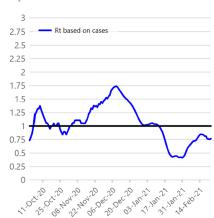
Current RN = 0.78



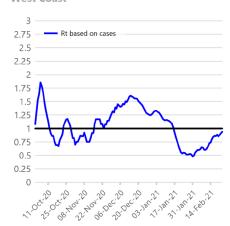




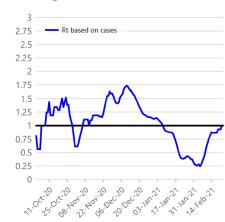
Cape Winelands



West Coast



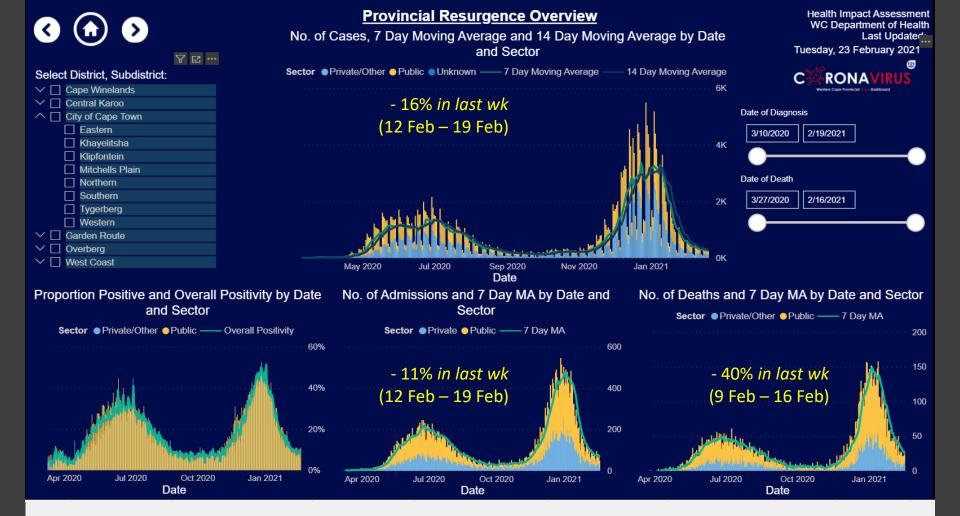
Overberg



Approximated based on smoothed doubling times

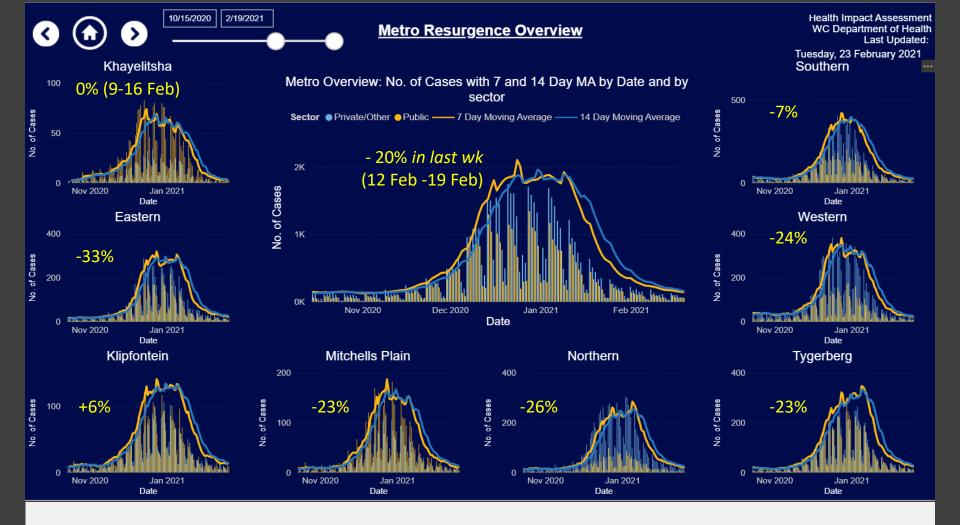


Garden route



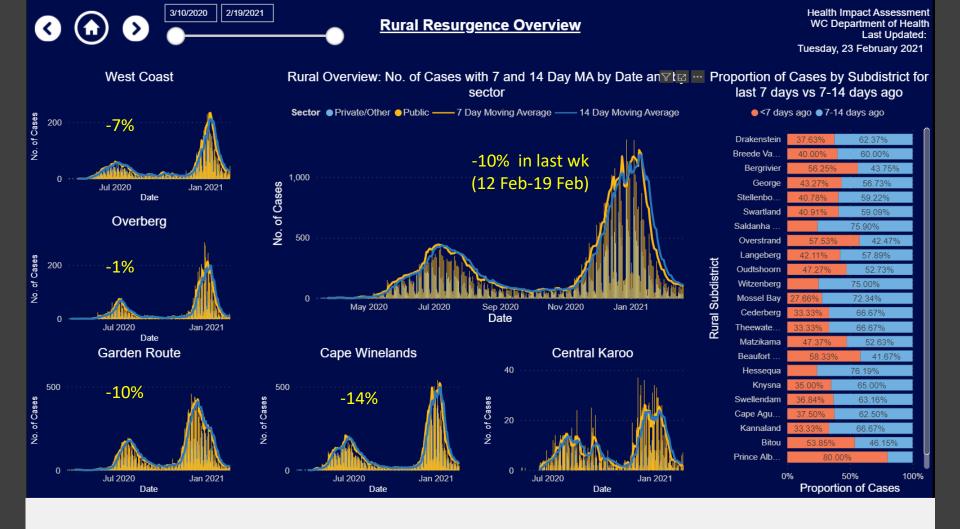
Provincial Overview

- For the sixth consecutive week, COVID-19 cases across the Western Cape have declined.
- Using 7 day moving averages, confirmed cases have declined a further 16%, while admissions and deaths have dropped by 11% and 40% respectively.
- The proportion positive has dropped further to 8% on 19 February 2021



Metro Overview

- Cases in the Metro decreased by a further 20% from 12 February 2021 to 19 February 2021.
- All sub-districts show a decrease in cases except Klipfontein which showed a slight increase in cases.



Rural Overview

Cases in Rural have declined by 10%, with all the districts showing decreasing case numbers.

Triangulating with wastewater

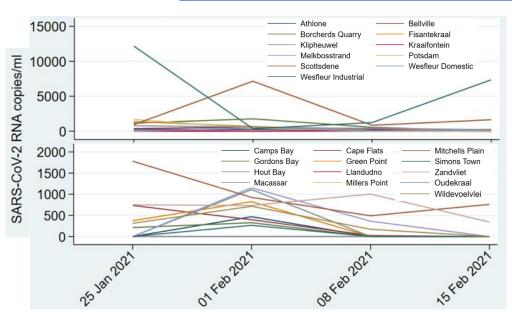




SAMRC COVID- 19 AND WASTEWATER EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

WEEK 2021

City of Cape Town, Breede Valley AND Overberg

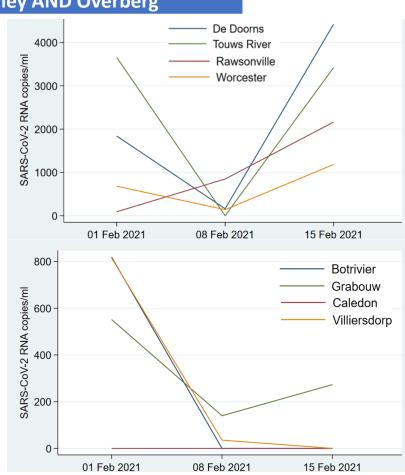


Metro:

Decrease/sustained low SARS CoV-2 RNA across most treatment plants with none detected at 17 treatment plants.

SARS-CoV-2 RNA >1000 copies/ml at only 2 treatment plants:

- Wesfleur Industrial
- Scottsdene



Breede Valley:

Steep increase in SARS CoV-2 RNA in all treatment plants – need to watch closely for any increase in cases.

Theewaterskloof:

SARS CoV-2 not detected in Caledon, Botrivier or Villiersdorp; low levels at Grabouw

Note different axes for different graphs to accommodate low SARS-CoV-2 values

The health platform COVID response



Acute service platform – general comments

- 1. Currently 1316 COVID patients in our acute hospitals (758 in public hospitals & 558 in private hospitals). This excludes PUIs and cases in specialised hospital settings.
- COVID hospitalisations have continued to decline; there has however been a increase in trauma cases
- 3. The Metro hospitals have an average occupancy rate of 86%; George drainage area hospitals at 52%; Paarl drainage area hospitals at 68% & Worcester drainage area hospitals at 64%.
- 4. Occupancies in COVID beds show **Metro** hospitals at **20%**; **George** drainage area hospitals at **14%**; **Paarl** drainage area hospitals at **26%**; **Worcester** drainage area hospitals at **24%**.
- 5. COVID & PUI cases currently make up 9% 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 33 patients (3 212 cumulative patients), Freesia & Ward 99 has 13 patients, Mitchell Plain hospital of hope has 25 patients and Sonstraal currently has 7 patients.
- 7. The Metro mass fatality centre has capacity for 240 bodies; currently 9 decedents (cumulative total of 1333 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 23/02/2021

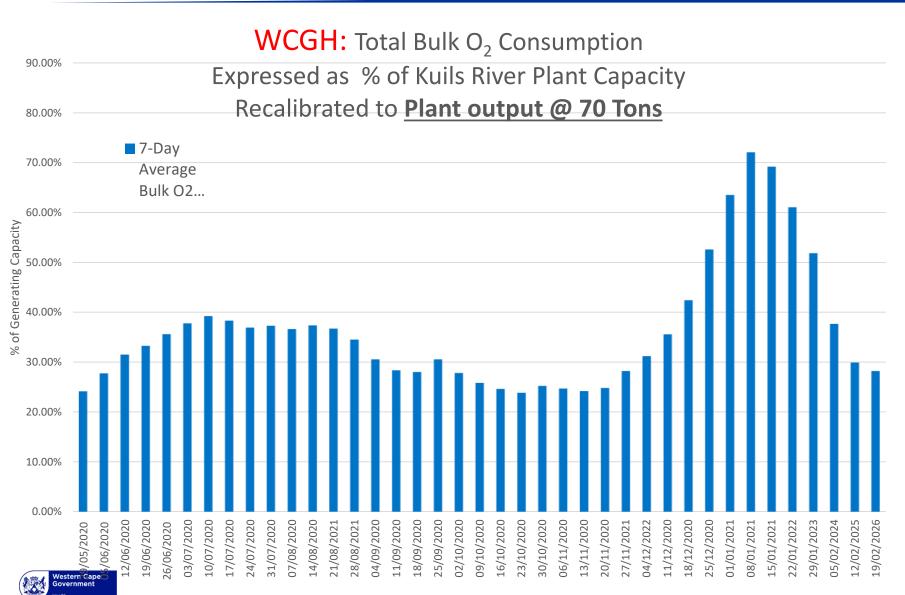
Drainage Area	Operational Beds	Filled Beds	BUR %	COVID BUR %	% Covid patients	Designated Covid Beds(General Wards)	Designated Covid Beds(Critical Care)
Cape Town /Metro	5 054	4 327	86%	20%	7 %	18%	49%
George	913	476	52%	14%	9%	13%	29%
Paarl	940	640	68%	26%	11%	24%	133%
Worcester	783	501	64%	24%	18%	24%	30%
SubTotal WCDOH	7 690	5 944	77%	20%	9%	19%	45%

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

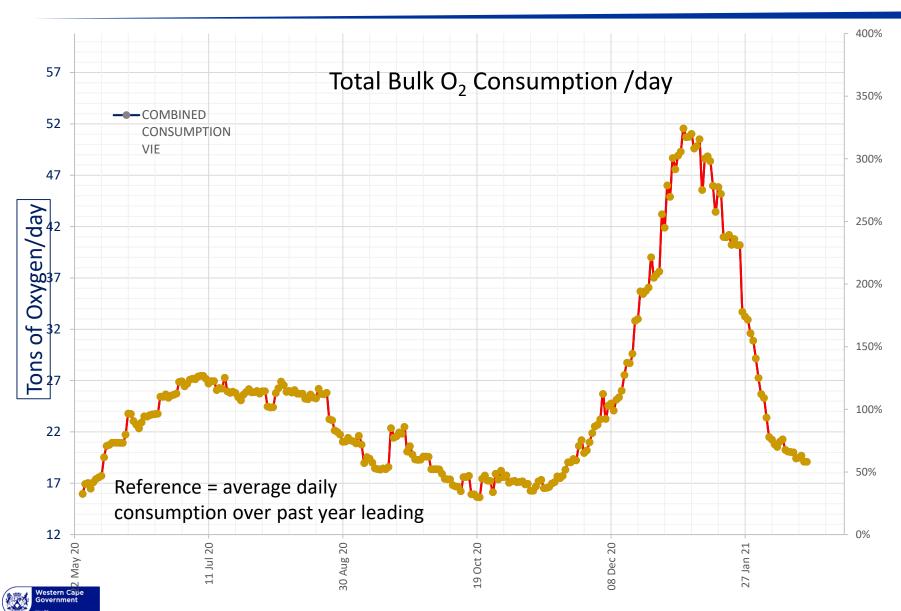
Operational Bed = an inpatient bed available for inpatient use that is staffed and equipped.



Daily oxygen consumption over past month – tons/day



Public Sector oxygen consumption trend - tons/day



Oxygen utilisation – general comments

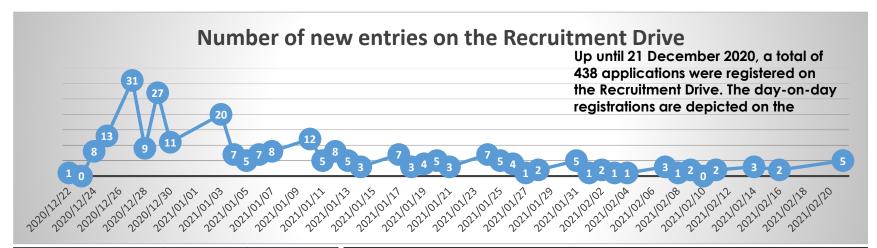
- 1. The combined oxygen utilisation in the Western Cape Public and private hospital sectors is 37.35 tons/day (after a peak of >80 tons/day)
- 2. The combined public- private utilisation is now below the maximal production capacity of 70 tons/day at the Afrox Western Cape plant.
- 3. The public sector **daily bulk oxygen** consumption is **28.21**% of the Kuilsriver plant for the 7 day period ending 5st February (compared to **81.69**% for the period ending 15th January at our peak oxygen consumption).
- 4. The department's total bulk oxygen consumption has reduced to around 19.28 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 the well-being of health care workers and the health services



High Level Summary on Recruitment Drive



Category of HCW	Possibly Available	Appointed on PERSAL
мо	153	22
Enrolled Nurse(EN)	101	13
Enrolled Nursing Auxiliary (ENA)	117	17
Not Indicated	32	5
Professional Nurse	125	56
Professional Nurse with Specialty	38	8
	566	121

Institutions have made 68 Offers to the following categories of staff	Institutions	have made	8 Offers to	the following	categories of staff:
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OSD-Category Rank	Filled	Reserved Posts	Grand Total
Allied Health	23	2	25
Doctors	75		75
Nursing	775	64	839
Pharmacists	5	0	5
Pharmacists-			
Assistant	10	0	10
Social Workers	6	0	6
Admin and Related	150	2	152
Grand Total	1044	68	1112

There are currently 1044 filled posts across the platform for additional COVID posts, 68 offers are pending finalization which will bring the total to 1112. Of the 687 Recruitment Drive applicants, 121 has thus far been appointed on PERSAL. The balance of which 566 are possibly available for appointment.



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DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW HEALTHCARE WORKERS INFECTED WITH COVID-19



Totals as at 24 Feb 2021

Active Cases

Cumulative Infections 8,812

-



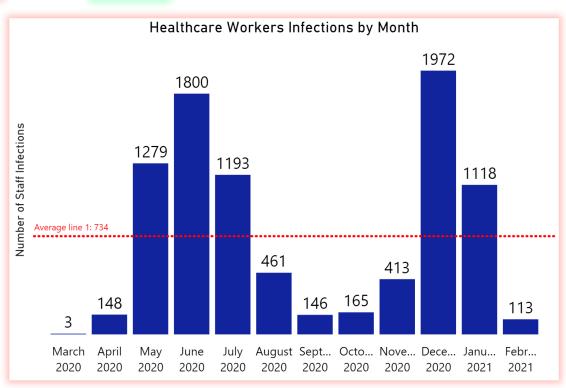
8,628

R.I.P

119

65





Gender Distribution by Sex



DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW Totals as at 24 Feb 2021 **HEALTHCARE WORKERS INFECTED WITH COVID-19 - DAILY TRENDS Active Cases Cumulative Infections** 8,628 119 65 8,812 **Doctors** Daily Staff Infection Trends 9 173 Nurses 20 Number of Staff Infected 127 126 Radiographers 103 **Pharmacists**

Nov 2020

Jan 2021

Mar 2020

May 2020

Jul 2020

Date of Diagnosis

Sep 2020

Other Categories

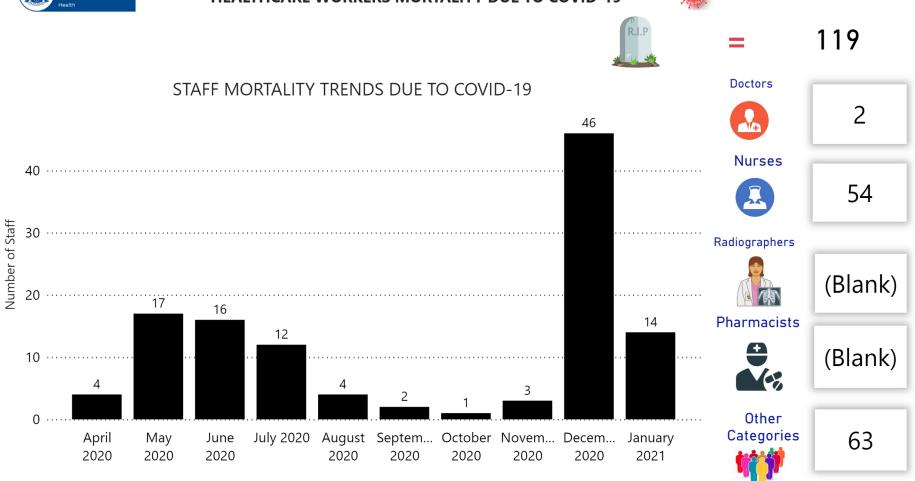
34



DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW HEALTHCARE WORKERS MORTALITY DUE TO COVID-19



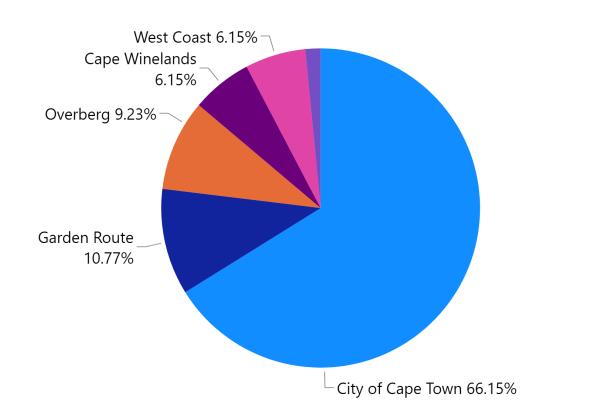
Totals as at 24 Feb 2021





43 6

Staff Infected District Cape Winelands Central Karoo City of Cape Town Garden Route Overberg West Coast **Total** 65



DISTRIBUTION OF ACTIVE CASES PER DISTRICT

District

- City of Cape Town
- Garden Route
- Overberg
- Cape Winelands
- West Coast
- Central Karoo

Vaccine Implementation update



Vaccination Programme Launch

- The launch took place at Khayelitsha District Hospital on the 17 Feb from 14:00 where President Cyril Ramaphosa and Minister Zweli Mkhize were among the first South Africans to receive the vaccine.
- 2. GSH and TBH commenced vaccinations on the same day as the launch.





Vaccine update: Phases and Prioritisation Groups

Phase I

- Health Care Workers:
 - Public & Private Health Sectors
 - Care Workers
 - CHWs
 - Health Science students
 - Traditional Healers
- Estimated target:
 - 132 000

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 update: Prioritisation for Phase 1 for J&J Vaccine

Phase I

- Health Care Workers:
 - Public & Private Health Sectors
 - Care Workers
 - CHWs
 - Health Science students
 - Traditional Healers
- Estimated target:
 - 132 000

Limited doses of the J&J vaccine has been secured as part of the Sisonke Programme.

The J&J Vaccine will be arriving in **four** tranches over 8 weeks.

The **first tranche**, received on 17 February 2021, contained **13 160 doses** for private and public sectors.

It is anticipated that we will be able to cover **40% of health care workers** over the 8 week period.





Sequencing (1)

The following sequencing principles will be applied in the Western Cape:

- a) The principle of equitable access is supported.
- b) The TBH and GSH sites be seen as Metro East and Metro West sites
- c) Given the small no of doses in first round, the **immediate sub district of Tygerberg, and Southern/ or Western be focussed** upon to ensure pragmatic quantum of doses per facility, and not too thinly scattered across too many facilities. **This will enable access to staff at these facilities from acute hospitals to EMS and PHC both within WCGH as well as the COCT.**
- d) We have developed a vaccine roll out plan for the next 8 weeks to ensure that we cover all the geographic areas of the province



Sequencing (2)

- e) The number of doses will be allocated pro rata to the number of staff at identified facilities within the defined sub district.
- f) From the pro rata allocated doses to a facility, **a further prioritisation needs to happen within facilities**. The following approach / factors could be considered:
 - individual vulnerability by age
 - individual vulnerability by co morbidities if data is available and can be fairly applied
 - risk of exposure by category of staff (patient facing vs. non patient facing) as suggested by the Expert Advisory Committee I.e. nurses, doctors etc.
 - criticality of setting within facility critical care, Covid wards, ECs,
 Theatres etc.



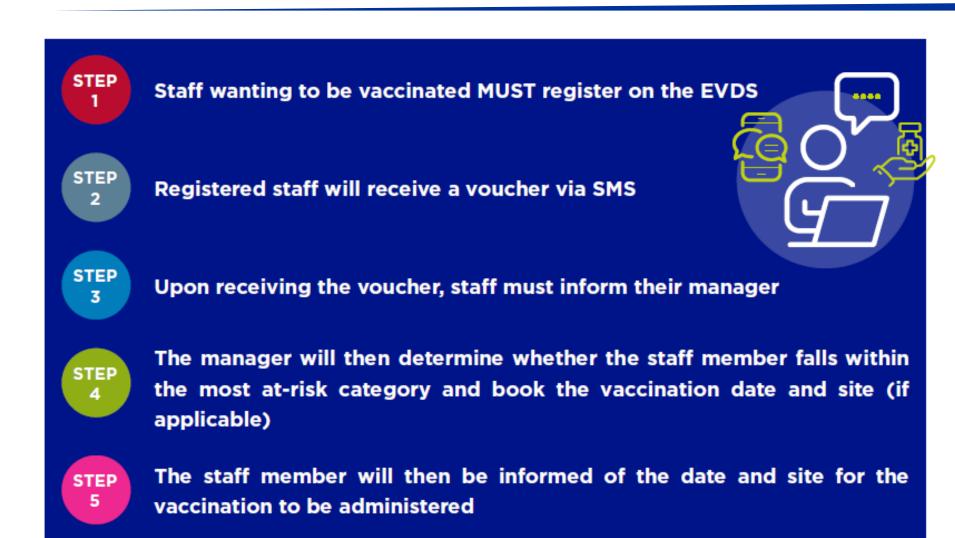
Vaccine update: Electronic Data System

• Electronic Vaccine Data System (EVDS):

- Staff are being encouraged to complete the self-enrolment process on EVDS
- This process will replace the traditional patient folder to maintain an electronic patient record for the COVID-19 Vaccine roll-out only
- Paper-based systems are in place to serve as a back-up system only
- Consent will form part of EVDS & this includes the additional consent for the J&J vaccine

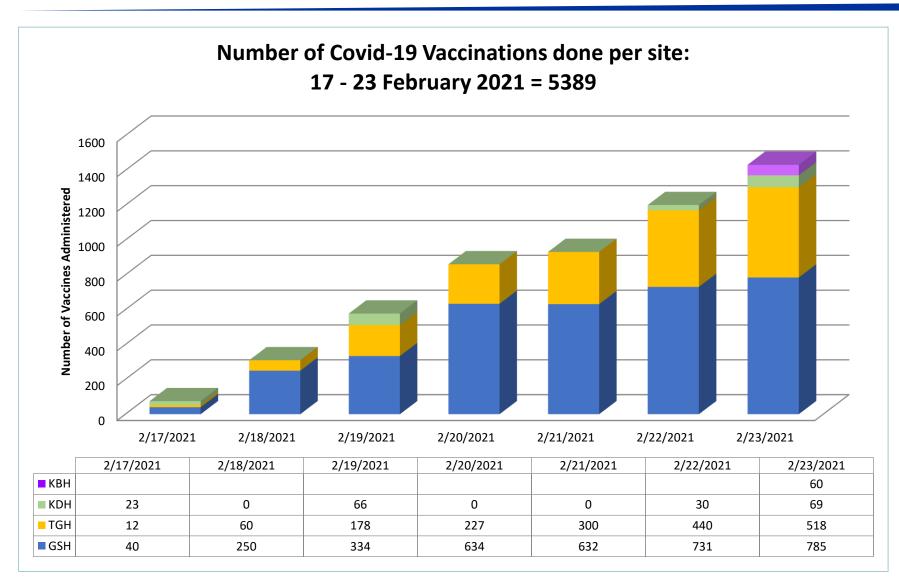


Vaccine update: Enrolment Process for J&J Vaccine





Vaccine uptake: 17 – 23 February 2021





Roll-out Sites for J&J Vaccine

Tranche 1(17 February to 02 March)

- Groote Schuur Hospital
- Tygerberg Hospital
- Khayelitsha District Hospital
- Karl Bremer Hospital

Tranche 2 (02 to 16 March)

- Groote Schuur Hospital
- Tygerberg Hospital
- Khayelitsha District Hospital
- Mitchell's Plain District Hospital
- George Hospital
- Worcester Hospital
- Paarl Hospital

Tranche 3 (17 to 30 March)

- Helderberg Hospital
- Ceres Hospital
- Hermanus Hospital
- Caledon Hospital
- West Coast District (Bergriver, Cederberg, Swartland, Saldanha, Matzikama)
- Central Karoo District (B/West, Laingsburg, Prince Albert)
- Garden Route (Hessequa, Kannaland, Oudtshoorn)



Roll-out of J&J Vaccine

- The number of vaccination sites will be increased from four sites in tranche 1
 to seven sites in tranche 2, with seven more sites coming on board in tranche
 3.
- 2. **Tranche 4** of the J&J allocation will be utilised to conduct mop-up vaccination activities for healthcare workers.
- 3. Whilst vaccination sites will be established at designated facilities, these sites will service the geographic catchment area attached to the respective sites and outreach vaccination activities will be conducted in the rural districts.
- 4. We will **review the sites regularly** considering all the logistics in establishing a site and may revise the list from to time; bur will ensure that we cover all areas.
- 5. Vaccine cards have been printed and are being delivered to sites by CMD.

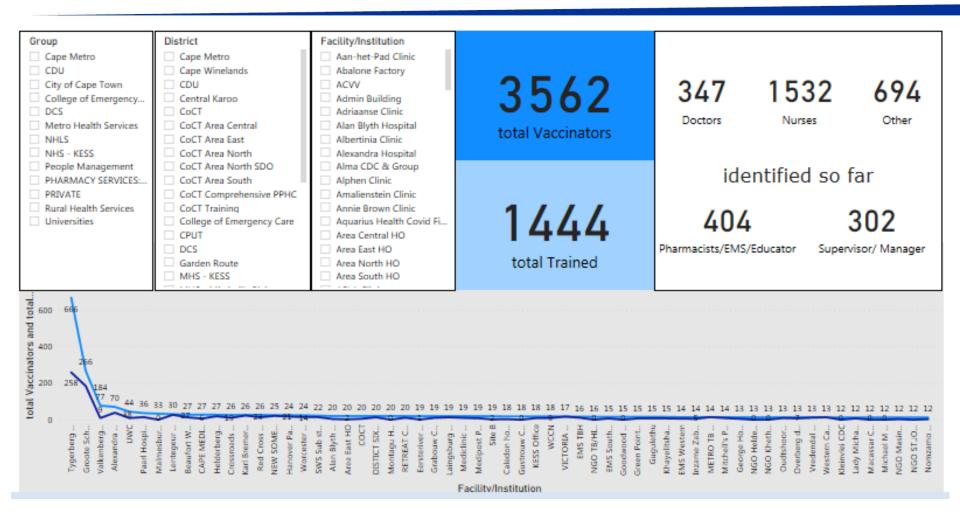


Vaccine update: Ongoing processes beyond the J&J Vaccine

- 1. Master Facility List (Vaccination Sites) is finalised and sites are being amended and will remain an ongoing process.
- 2. Vaccinator training is ongoing with 1444 vaccinators trained to date.
- Adequate PPE will be available for further rollout of Covid-19 vaccines in the province.
- 4. Minus **70 degree storage capacity for Pfizer vaccine** in the province confirmed with for up to **450 000 vials** of vaccines.
- 5. Site Readiness Pack has been finalised to assist vaccination sites as they come online.



Vaccinator Database



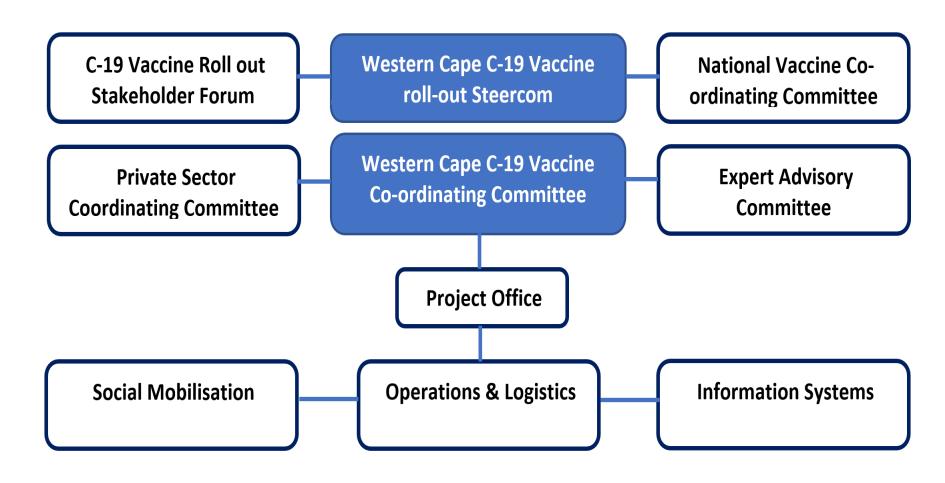


Challenges Experienced During Phase 1

- 1. The impact on time that study conditions have on throughput time:
 - a) **Syringe Filling time** resulted in delays at some sites the need for more GCP pharmacists addressed by ongoing training
 - b) The natural disposition to use a **paper-based system**. Vaccinators and Site supervisors were soon challenged with back-capturing and the shift to EVDS required rapid change management.
 - c) IT hardware will need to be strengthened as we go to scale with EVDS
- 2. **Delays in SMSs (via the EVDS system)** inviting HCWs to consent to the J&J vaccine and the subsequent e-voucher **resulted in delays in accessing vaccine**, (**resolved now**)
- 3. Non-HCWs are registering as HCWs (via the EVDS system) and they are arriving at sites with e-vouchers. To mitigate this rsk we will be requesting HCWs to produce proof
- 4. Booking system for private GPs (via the EVDS system) should be better aligned to public sector planning and processes.



Revised Governance arrangements for Phase II roll out





Governance arrangements

1. Given the nature of this multi stakeholder effort, a two tiered structure is recommended at provincial level:

- A small steering committee that provides the stewardship to this process
- A broader reference group (stakeholder forum) that is more inclusive that provides oversight and advice.

2. The steering committee will comprise the ff:

- HOD: Health (Chair) supported by exco, CD: ECSS, Comms
- IEC rep

- COCT

Business

- Private Health sector

Local Govt rep

- DOTP

- Provincial Treasury
- Religious fraternity rep
- Organised labour rep
- Civil society rep



Preparation for Phase II

- 1. The focus will be on scaled up planning and organization for phase II.
- 2. A more widely representative stakeholder forum will also be set up.
- The COCT has been engaged to be part of the process as well as pooling of resources to strengthen project office capability to support the roll out programme.
- 4. The private sector will be similarly engaged.



Vaccine sourcing strategy

Sourcing Framework

- Has the proposed vaccine been approved by SAHPRA / Has SAHPRA approved vaccine for Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines?
- 2. What contractual arrangements have been made with the National Government in terms of liability, costing and vetting approvals? Please supply contract.
- 3. Has the vaccine been tested against the South African (SA) variant of the virus?
- 4. Has efficacy against the SA variant been demonstrated during clinical trials, and if so, provide details. Has a dossier been submitted to SAHPRA for registration of the vaccine in South Africa?

Direct Acquisition

- 1. Requests had been sent to suppliers who responded the Premiers call. Due date to supply information to the Department is 24 February 2021
- 2. Once received all information will be evaluated by Sourcing Team



Vaccine sourcing strategy

Donations

- Cash donations are preferred and once received will be channeled through the revenue fund in accordance with the existing donations framework
- 2. As a result of regularity requirements donation of vaccine stock will not be accepted

Partnerships

- 1. Partnerships with the private sector will be pursued; this will be particularly helpful the vaccine roll out strategy.
- 2. There is already an existing forum that is used for the engagement with the private sector



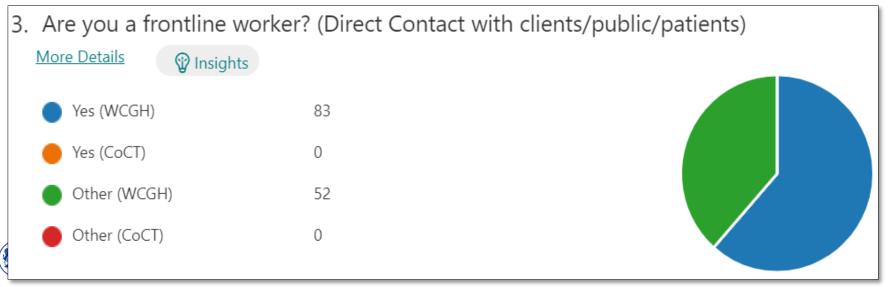
Staff Readiness: Poll Results Covid 19 Vaccine Options 23 February 2021



Staff Readiness: Vaccine Options Rapid Poll Results

Number of respondents at the time of Report: 135





Staff Readiness continued...

4. If you were offered the COVID 19 vaccine would you take it?

More Details

Yes

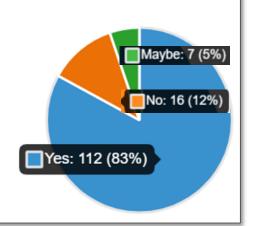
112

N

16

Maybe

7



5. If you are likely to take the vaccine, which option would you prefer?

More Details

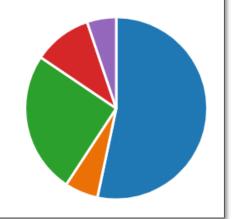
Johnson & Johnson (Sisonke)

Pfizer 8

I dont have a preference and ... 34

N/A 14

Other 7





What determined your preference?

Johnson & Johnson (Sisonke

- Manufactured in SA
- Only 1 shot require
- Best option for current strain
- The President have accepted to be vaccinated so that helped with believing in the vaccine
- Data being presented via Health Communications and news.

Other: Moderna/

It's more widely trusted internationally

Pfizer

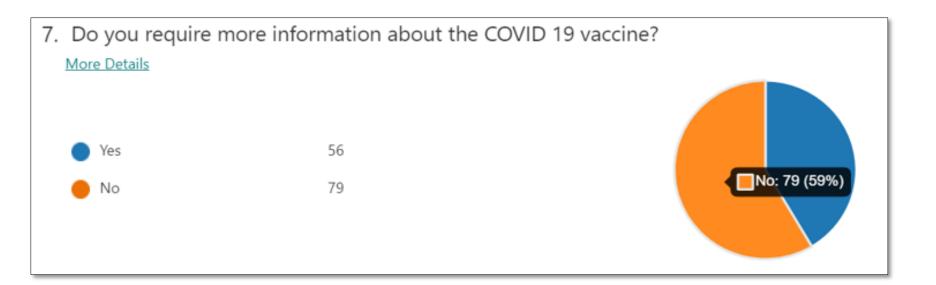
- Research published shows better efficacy against our strain
- The percentage of efficacy of Pfizer is higher than Johnson & Johnson
- Not a trial drug
- Available data and the number of vaccinations already happening across the world using Pfizer

Not specific preference and will accept whichever is offered

- Anything is better than nothing
- Desperate need for any immunity advantage any vaccine can offer
- Scientific evidence



Information about the COVID 19 Vaccine



MORE INFORMATION REQUIRE:

- Data & research information, Efficacy & more data available esp. with regards to variant in SA
- The safety and efficiency information regarding this vaccine
- Side effects
- Information / confirmation that vaccine is safe to use with existing health conditions



Communication COVID-19 vaccine rollout strategy



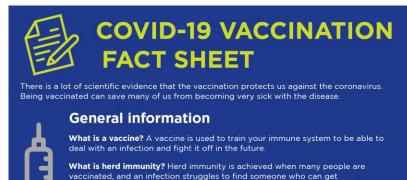
Tools that can help (updated with J+J info)

Coronavirus web page with resources

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



Covid-19 Vaccination Fact Sheet



sick. When a disease can spread very quickly, more people need to be

vaccinated to make herd immunity possible

Updated staff comms

Direct staff and public to central point for info

COVID-19 Vaccination Website is LIVE!

Access vital information and resources about COVID-19 vaccination at WCGH to make informed decisions and help stop the spread of misinformation, fear and fake news.

Visit the site

Get responses to questions relating to the COVID-19 vaccination from public health specialist, Professor Hassan Mahomed, in our latest Q&A video series.

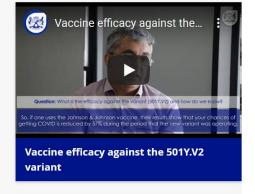
Watch a range of videos from healthcare workers and hear WHY they WILL get VACCINATED.

Please note: this site is updated regularly as content changes arise.

Tools: Q+A on video (16 questions)













Tools: Adding more voices – reasons for vaccination - encouragement



Vaccines help your body fight deadly

Nurse Leonie Muggels from Mitchells Plain Hospital encourages communities and colleagues take the vaccines to protect themselves and their loved ones.



Karel Wildschut getting vaccinated

Karel Wildschut, originally from Macassar and now living in Cambridge, explains the process of getting vaccinated abroad.



Beaunez Coerecius is adament that she'll get her vaccination against Covid-19 to

boost her immune system and protect herself and others against serious disease.







Aligning/adding Sisonke material

Just had the COVID-19 vaccine?

Side effects are common. Here's what to look out for.

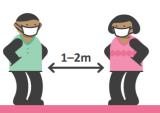


- Side effects can start around 6 hours after the vaccine, peak at 24 hours and resolve in 2-3 days.
- If you need to, treat pain and fever with paracetamol.

Allergy is rare Perhaps you will

Don't forget COVID-19 prevention!

- · Wear a mask in public.
- Keep apart from others outside your home as much as possible.
- Avoid crowds and confined spaces have small gatherings outside.
- As a healthcare worker, continue to wear standard PPE at work.



We are not safe until we are all safe.







Concluding remarks

- The 2nd wave has subsided in the Western Cape, with a clear and consistent 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, and the real prospect of a 3rd wave.
- 4. Our health care workers have faced significant mental and emotional strain.

 We continue an intentional process of grieving and healing.
- 5. We are **implementing the roll out of the J+J vaccine** rapidly and will scale this in the coming weeks



Conclusions



Concluding remarks

- The 2nd wave has subsided in the Western Cape, with a clear and consistent 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, and the real prospect of a 3rd wave.
- 4. Our health care workers have faced significant mental and emotional strain.

 We continue an intentional process of grieving and healing.
- 5. The emerging evidence of vaccine efficacy against 501Y.V2 will impact on vaccine availability over the coming months.
- 6. We should gear up the **implementation of vaccines** as the **key drive against**COVID over the coming months.



Thank you

