Updated Covid vaccine rules for South Africa



The National Department of Health (DOH) has published a new circular detailing adjusted Covid-19 vaccine dosing intervals, and the introduction of 'mix-and-match' dosing for adults.

According to the Director-General for Health, Dr Sandile Buthelezi, the following changes will take place:

Pfizer vaccine:

- From 23 February, people that received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine can get their second dose after 21 days (previously, this was 42 days).
- People that received their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine can get their third **booster dose after 90 days** (previously this was 180 days).

Johnson & Johnson vaccine:

• From **21 February 2022**, people that received their first dose of the J&J vaccine can get their **second booster dose after 60 days**.

Mixing vaccines

• From **23 February 2022**, South Africans will be allowed to mix and match the Pfizer and J&J vaccines, depending on availability.

While the department has opened up this option to **adults over 18**, it still recommends that the same vaccine types be used, where available.

- People who have received one dose of the J&J vaccine can get a dose of the Pfizer vaccine after 60 days.
- People who have received two doses of the Pfizer vaccine can get a dose of the J&J vaccine after 90 days.

Platinum Health members who want to get vaccinated but are unsure where to go, can contact Case Management on 014 590 1700 or 080 000 6942 for guidance.