

Media Statement

To All Media

06 June 2021

LIMPOPO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ACTIVATE ALL THE 37 APPROVED VACCINATION SITES AND 92 COMMUNITY OUTREACH TEAMS AS THE DEMAND INCREASES

Limpopo Health Department will activate all its 37 approved vaccination sites and 92 community outreach teams. This is done in order to improve access to the vaccination in an equitable manner to all the Limpopo citizens. Since the commencement of Phase 2 Covid-19 Vaccination rollout on the 17th of May 2021, the department has so far expanded from the initial 6 Pfizer site to 20 vaccination sites over a three-week period excluding our outreach sites.

The demand from our senior citizens aged 60 and above to receive the vaccine has been overwhelming. Despite having limited vaccines, we were able to deal with the high volumes of our senior citizens visiting our sites. Limpopo has from the beginning accepting the walk-in as a results of appreciating our material conditions on the ground and never returned any patient without SMSs. With the 37 approved vaccination sites and 92 community outreach sites, clients are now encouraged to wait for SMS before coming to the site and walk-in clients will continue to be slotted on available time-slots whenever possible however priority will be given to those with SMS.

This will allow each site to take limited number of people per day because the limited vaccine dosages we receive per week will be equally distributed to all 37sites, with priority being given to sites that will be opening for the first time unlike currently when they are distributed amongst few sites.

“We have noted that there are some villages which are in the far-flung areas away from the eligible vaccination site which makes it difficult for our senior citizens to access vaccines sites. As such, the department has been able to reach out to those areas through our outreach teams and will continue to do so. We call upon our people to remain patient as we will reach out to every single senior citizen, they remain our priorities.

“As a province we are encouraged and humbled by an increased in the number of people who are registered, continue to register and present themselves in numbers for vaccination More than 120000 people in the province have already received their vaccines while more than 405000 have already registered. Equally we are proud of our both our registration teams assisting senior citizens and our vaccination teams that continue to make sure no senior citizens who present themselves in our sites

for vaccination is turned away unless the vaccine is finished Our vaccination outreach teams goes to an extent of delivering vaccines to our golden boys and girls who are 90 years and above at their own household.

We want to applaud them for their dedication and commitment that they continue to show in the middle of this pandemic.” said MEC Ramathuba.

Limpopo department of health is worried and concern about the spike in the number of new Covid-19 infections. especially in Waterberg region where from the 176 new cases recorded 102 are in Waterberg and 50 in Thabazimbi municipality only.

“We call upon the people of Limpopo to remain vigilant. While we are trying hard to fast track the vaccination program, we also urge our people to be strict with wearing of masks, social distancing and hand sanitizing if not hand washing with water and soap. It’s critical to avoid gatherings whether funerals, weddings or churches. It’s important to go to the mall if indeed it’s a must.” concluded MEC Ramathuba.

By working together, we can defeat COVID 19.

END

Issued by Department of HEALTH

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