

**TO: DDG: CHIEF OF OPERATIONS
CD: METRO HEALTH SERVICES
CD: RURAL HEALTH SERVICES
CD: STRATEGY AND HEALTH SUPPORT
ALL DISTRICT DIRECTORS
DIRECTOR: HIA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: CITY HEALTH**

Circular: H121/2023

AVAILABILITY OF COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 VACCINE

The National Department of Health (NDoH) has notified all provinces that **all available** COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 vaccines **will expire on 31 October 2023**.

The COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 vaccine will **no longer be available from 1 November 2023**.

Services are to take note of the following vital dates regarding the distribution and use of the COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 vaccine:

Vaccination Programme Action	Date
Final order date for COMIRNATY® vaccine from NDoH	18 October 2023
The final COMIRNATY® vaccine will be delivered to provinces	26 to 28 October 2023
Last date a 1 st dose in the primary schedule of COMIRNATY® vaccine can be administered	9 October 2023
Last date a dose (completion of primary schedule or booster doses) of COMIRNATY® vaccine will be administered	31 October 2023

- The implication of this will therefore be the **interruption of the 12 to 17-year-old (adolescent) COVID-19 vaccination programme** until a suitable vaccine is available. **Once information has been received regarding the adolescent COVID-19 vaccination programme, it will be distributed timeously.**

- The vaccination of 5 to 11-year-old children will continue with the COMIRNATY® paediatric vaccines until **31 December 2023**.
- Persons older than 18 years will still have access to the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®.

Further details are contained in the attached NDoH circular:

LAST CHANCE TO RECEIVE COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 VACCINE

Yours sincerely



Chief Director: ECSS

JO Arendse

Date: 6 Oct 2023



health

Department:
Health
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO:
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES
DISTRICT AND PHC MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINE PROGRAMME MANAGERS
COVID-19 VACCINATION SITE MANAGERS

LAST CHANCE TO RECEIVE COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 VACCINE

The available COMIRNATY® (PFIZER) COVID-19 vaccines will expire on the **31 October 2023**. Health facilities are encouraged to order sufficient COMIRNATY® vaccines to meet demand until the end of October 2023. To ensure availability, the final order date for the COMIRNATY® vaccine will be 18 October 2023.

From 1 November 2023, the COMIRNATY® vaccine will no longer be available. The implication is that the adolescent COVID-19 vaccination programme will be interrupted until a suitable vaccine is available. Please note the following important dates regarding the distribution and use of the COMIRNATY® vaccine.

Vaccination programme action	Date
Final order date for COMIRNATY® vaccine	18 October 2023
The final COMIRNATY® vaccine will be delivered to provinces	26 to 28 October 2023
Last date a 1 st dose in the primary schedule of COMIRNATY® vaccine can be administered	9 October 2023
Last date a dose (completion of primary schedule or booster doses) of COMIRNATY® vaccine will be administered	31 October 2023

The vaccination of 5 to 11-year-old children will continue with the COMIRNATY® paediatric vaccines until 31 December 2023. Persons older than 18 years will still be able to access the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen®.

Healthcare providers and persons requiring COMIRNATY® vaccine for travel purposes should take note of these dates to ensure the timely administration of vaccines and be prepared for the vaccine availability change from 1 November, 2023. It is crucial to stay updated with any further guidance or changes related to the vaccination programme.

Kind regards

DR N CRISP

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: HEALTH

DATE: 28 September 2023