

# STEVE BIKO ACADEMIC HOSPITAL

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

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**GAUTENG**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**GGT2030**  
GROWING GAUTENG TOGETHER

## Background

- With the second wave of Covid-19 came hope in the form of Covid-19 vaccines. The developed world had had an early start, and South Africa just received its first batch of vaccine (AstraZeneca) on Monday the 1st of February 2021 from India.
- SBAH as an accredited site, is in line to receive its portion of vaccines by the 15th of February 2021.
- This affords us time to workshop and educate staff about Covid-19 AstraZeneca vaccine. Today we are going to outline/discuss the OHS rollout Plan.

## INTRODUCTION

- As you would know there was a-
  - Phase 3B clinical trial of Johnson & Johnson Covid 19 vaccine
  - in selected centers in the past 2 weeks
- Involving a 100 000 participants.
- Participants included Health Care Workers (HCW's) both public and private sector.
- This clinical trial took place due to Astra Zeneca failing efficacy

## INTRODUCTION

- The clinical trial in our setting( Steve Biko Academic Hospital) was lead and conducted by research groups such as:
  - Medical Research Council (MRC)
  - Synexus and
  - Sechaba.
- The study name SISONKE and study population comprised of health care workers.

## INTRODUCTION

- Collaboration was essential between :
  - the Department of Health
  - Research groups
  - and Occupational Health.
- As is our primary task to promote health and safety among our Health Care Workers, it came as no surprise that we participated in this endeavor.

## Classification of SBAH Healthcare Workers (HCW)

Category 1	Staff working at COVID-19 Tents Level 4 ,Emergency Unit, COVID-19 designated wards, Theatres staff, ICU staff, Laboratory staff, Mortuary staff,
Category 2	OHS Staff, Infection Control Unit, Doctors, Nurses, Allied workers, Waste collectors , Linen Unit,
Category 3	Pharmacy, Admin Clerks, Household staff, Cleaning Units, Porters, Drivers, Clinical engineering staff, Security, Food service
Category 4	HR Unit, CSSD, FMU, DID, Horticulture, IT Unit, Finance, and Procurement.

## ELEMENTS OF COLLABORATION

The elements of the collaboration were:

- Communication
- Planning
- Resource allocation
- Data collection
- Vaccination

# COMMUNICATION

- There were Webinars and Team Meetings held before the onset of the research involving all the relevant stakeholders e.g. :
  - NDoH
  - SBAH CEO
  - SBAH Occupational Health, IT, Communication, Pharmacy, Admin and Logistics and Security
  - MRC
  - Sisonke
  - Synexus, etc.



# COMMUNICATION

- SBAH Occupational Health played an important role of educating; training and encouraging all the Health Care Workers to enroll on the Electronic Vaccine Data System (EVDS) for the vaccine roll out.
  - All stakeholders involved presented to the managers, hospital staff and labor unions
- Non-verbal communication aids such as signage's were developed and posted
  - SMS's were sent to all our staff members to be vaccinated
- As soon as on site vaccinations started there were 2 debriefing sessions in the morning and afternoons

# PLANNING

- Site identification and preparation
- Development of Consent forms by the research groups
- Adverse event reporting tool
- Development of an appointment system by Occupational health – (Allocating different slots according to the priority).
- Investigational product (IP) handling which included it being received every day from the storage facility of Synexus by our Pharmacy and distributed to the vaccination site.

# PLANNING

- Security of the IP and for queue marshalling
- Information and Technology (IT) preparations
- Training and education of Vaccinators
- Measures of Infectious control including waste management

# RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Human resource in the form of Vaccinators and runners

Data capturing tools e.g.

- Computers
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Data and Routers
- Telephones
- Fridges and cooler boxes
- Photocopy machines
- Sanitizers

# DATA COLLECTION

Data the mainstay of research was collected:

- Real-time
- On site by data captures from both SBAH and research groups.
- Data was collected both on paper and computer, on the first 2 days of the project and later paperless

Data collected included:

- Identification of the health worker
- Recording of the IP dose batch number
- Recording of the vaccinators name and
- Number of workers vaccinated.

# VACCINATION

- Managed by the Occupational Health and Safety
  - Queue marshalling.
  - The vaccinators team:
    - Training
    - vaccinated health workers.

## ISSUES OF CONCERN

- The conflict management during the operation was not prepared for adequately.
- There were booking challenges experienced by health care workers.
- The demand and the large numbers of HCW who came on site, for the vaccination, at times led to IP shortage.
- The larger numbers also put a strain on infectious control measures.
- Security issues (SAPS was on one occasion called in to assist).
- Long Working hours which included weekends.
- Training – most vaccinators were not trained

**THANK YOU**