

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