

**UNIVERSITY OF EMBU** 

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

### SENSITIZATION ON COVID 19 IMMUNIZATION/VACCINATION

Vaccination is a simple, safe, and effective way of protecting you against harmful diseases, before you come into contact with them. It uses your body's natural defenses to build resistance to specific infections and makes your immune system stronger.

Vaccines train your immune system to create antibodies, just as it does when it's exposed to a disease. However, because vaccines contain only killed or weakened forms of germs like viruses or bacteria, they do not cause the disease or put you at risk of its complications

Here, we will focus on the Covid 19 Vaccines

#### **TYPES OF COVID 19 VACCINES**

- AstraZeneca/oxford vaccine- COVISHIELD
- Moderna
- Sinopharm
- Johnson
- Pfizer

### HOW DO THEY WORK?

Vaccines reduce risk of getting a disease by working with your body's natural defenses to build protection. When you get a vaccine, your immune system responds by:

- Recognizing the invading germ, such as the virus or bacteria.
- Producing antibodies. Antibodies are proteins produced naturally by the immune system to fight disease.
- Remembering the disease and how to fight it. If you are then exposed to the germ in the future, your immune system can quickly destroy it before you become unwell.



The vaccine is therefore a safe and clever way to produce an immune response in the body, without causing illness.

Our immune system is designed to remember. Once exposed to one or more doses of a vaccine, we typically remain protected against a disease for years, decades or even a lifetime. This is what makes vaccines so effective. Rather than treating a disease after it occurs, vaccines prevent us from getting sick.

### **OBJECTIVES OF COVID-19 VACCINES:**

- To protect the most at risk population from COVID-19
- To maintain the integrity of the health system
- To contribute to interruption of transmission of SARS Cov2 infection
- To restore lives back to normal

# ELIGEBILITY CRITERIA:

Targeted population for the phase being rolled out include:

- Those Age 18 years and above
- Persons who previously had SARS-Cov-2 (Vaccination may be offered regardless of a person history of symptomatic or asymptomatic SARS-Cov-2 infection)
- Pregnant women
- Breastfeeding mothers

# CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Hypersensitivity to the 1<sup>st</sup> dose
- Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the contents such as polyethylene glycol (Pfizer and moderna)
- Polyethylene glycol can also be found in other substances such as baby wipes, skin products, depot injections, vaccines and some drugs
- Sino-pharm should not be given to those aged 60 years and above

# VACCINE SCHEDULES

- AstraZeneca a viral vector vaccine, 2 doses takes 12 weeks
- Moderna is a mRNA based vaccine, 2 doses take 28days
- Pfizer is a mRNA based vaccine, 2 doses takes 28days
- J&J Johnson is viral vector vaccine, 1 dose given once
- Sino-pharm is an inactivated produced in Vero cell 1 dose given once

