



MEDIA RELEASE

SAHPRA and Rollout to President and Deputy President

Embargo: Immediate release

Pretoria, 18 February 2021 – SAHPRA has approved the protocol amendment of the J&J implementation study targeted at Health Care Workers (HCW) for the inclusion of the President and the Deputy President. Whilst they are not classified as HCW, this initiative would assist greatly in encouraging vaccine uptake and reduce vaccine hesitancy.

“The protocol amendment was approved subject to ethics approval obtained prior to implementation of this amendment and the additional participants signing an informed consent form prior to being vaccinated,” indicates SAHPRA CEO, Dr Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela.

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About SAHPRA:

SAHPRA is tasked with regulating (monitoring, evaluating, investigating, inspecting and registering) all health products. This includes clinical trials, complementary medicines, medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics (IVDs). Furthermore, SAHPRA has the added responsibility of overseeing radiation control in South Africa. SAHPRA's mandate is outlined in the Medicines and Related Substances Act (Act No 101 of 1965 as amended) as well as the Hazardous Substances Act (Act No 15 of 1973).

SAHPRA has three pillars to ensure that medicines, medical devices and IVDs meet the requisite standards to protect the health and well-being of all who reside in South Africa:

- Safety
- Efficacy
- Quality

It is these three pillars that define the ethos of SAHPRA.