



**DIRECTOR GENERAL
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

PRETORIA

Private Bag X828, PRETORIA, 0001, Dr AB Xuma Building, 1112 Voortrekker Rd, Pretoria 351-JR, Pretoria, 0187, Tel (012) 395 8402

CAPE TOWN

P.O. Box 3875, CAPE TOWN, 8000, 103 Parliament Towers, Room 615, 120 Plain Street, CAPE TOWN, 8000 Tel (021) 461 2040 Fax (021) 461 6864

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

EXPIRY DATE OF COVID-19 VACCINE JANSSEN® (JOHNSON & JOHNSON)

SAHPRA has conditionally approved the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® for the active immunisation to prevent Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in individuals 18 years of age and older.

Janssen conducts ongoing stability assessment studies on the storage condition of the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen at different temperature ranges, and SAHPRA has approved the extended storage of the vaccine at 2-8 °C. The storage of the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® between 2-8 °C has been extended to 4.5 months (135 days). This is applicable to all vaccines currently in circulation and at central storage.

The storage conditions for the COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® stored at -20°C has not been updated, and therefore the expiry date for vaccines stored at -20°C remains unchanged. As no expiry date appears on the carton or the vial, the expiry date can be checked in different ways, including:

1. Scan the Quick Response (QR) code on the back of the carton using a mobile device camera
2. On the web, check VaxCheck.jnj

Please ensure that the expiry dates on all COVID-19 vaccine Janssen® currently stored between 2-8°C are updated to reflect a maximum of 4.5 months (135 days) from when the vaccine was moved from -20°C storage to 2-8°C storage.

Your continued support is appreciated.

**DR NICHOLAS CRISP
ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL: HEALTH
DATE: 03rd November 2021**