



**NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE ON
CORONAVIRUS**

**UPDATE ON COVID-19 IN THE COUNTRY AND RESPONSE
MEASURES, AS AT AUGUST 11, 2021**

DAY: 512

BRIEF NO: 504

PRESS STATEMENT

Our attention has been drawn to posts/advertisement circulating in social media by an Insurance company alleging that they are offering to cover for “adverse side effects” arising from Covid-19 vaccinations. The post is reported as stating that “vaccination will help stop the pandemic, get covered against the adverse side effects of the COVID-19 Vaccine.....” Not only is this advert unethical, it denotes/suggests that vaccines are unsafe and need underwriting.

The Ministry of Health has been conducting COVID-19 vaccination since March 2021. This vaccine is an additional measure to fighting the pandemic that has resulted in the loss of many lives and livelihoods. Kenya is targeting to vaccinate its entire adult population by December 2022.

All vaccines deployed for COVID-19 vaccination in Kenya have received both WHO and Kenya Pharmacy and Poisons Board Emergency Use Listing. These vaccines have been evaluated and found to be safe for use to combat the Covid-19 pandemic.

Kenya began nationwide vaccination with the Oxford/Astrazeneca vaccine. So far close to 2 million doses have been administered countrywide. This vaccine is safe with mild side effects which include headache, nausea and fever. These side effects are common to other vaccines as well. The Ministry of Health has also put in place additional safety monitoring programs through the Pharmacy and Poisons Board.

The Ministry of Health wishes to state that insurance against side effects is not only unnecessary but unethical. No company should claim to provide insurance services against vaccine side effects or

side effects of any medicine. An advertisement of such services is misleading to the public and creates unnecessary anxiety among people who are already at risk of severe Covid-19 disease. In addition, the vaccine is offered for free, and no direct expenses should be incurred by clients seeking to be vaccinated.

The Government warns any company or groupings that are out to profiteer from the Covid-19 pandemic that it is criminal and punishable by law in accordance with the Public Health Act. They should therefore desist from the malpractice otherwise the law will take its course.

The Ministry urges all Kenyans who are aged above 58 years, teachers, health workers, security officers, public servants and those aged 18 years with comorbid conditions not to hesitate taking up the covid-19 vaccine that is offered nearest to them.

Today **1,974** people have tested positive for the disease, from a sample size of **13,407** tested in the last 24 hours. The positivity rate is now **14.7%**. From the cases **1,902** are Kenyans while **72** are foreigners. **1,050** females while **924** are males. The youngest is a **seven-month-old infant** while the oldest is **110** years. Total confirmed positive cases are now **215,730** and cumulative tests so far conducted are **2,218,566**.

In terms of **County** distribution; Nairobi **700**, Mombasa **147**, Kiambu **139**, Nyeri **128**, Nakuru **116**, Machakos **87**, Nyandarua **62**, Kirinyaga **47**, Kilifi **41**, Busia **39**, Kajiado **39**, Murang'a **35**, Nandi **34**, Kericho **30**, Baringo **28**, Kitui **27**, Garissa **26**, Laikipia **26**, Taita Taveta **25**, Uasin Gishu **24**, Meru **24**, Marsabit **19**, Kwale **15**, Kakamega **13**, Lamu **12**, Narok **11**, Embu **11**, Migori **10**, Tana River **8**, Bungoma **8**, Kisii **6**, Isiolo **5**, Mandera **5**, Kisumu **4**, Makueni **4**, Siaya **4**, Bomet **3**, Homa Bay **3**, West Pokot **2**, Elgeyo Marakwet **2**, Samburu **2**, Trans Nzoia **1**, Turkana **1** and Vihiga **1**.

Distribution of positive cases by age is as follows; 0-9 years (**65**), 10-19 years (**197**), 20-29 years (**321**), 30-39 (**498**), 40-49 (**335**), 50-59 (**246**), 60 years and above (**312**).

Today **653** patients have recovered from the disease with **546** from the Home-Based Isolation and Care program while **107** are from various health facilities countrywide. Total recoveries now stand at **199,439** of whom **159,819** are from the Home Based Care and Isolation program, while **39,620** are from various health facilities.

Sadly, **30** patients have succumbed to the disease, **one** of them having occurred in the last 24 hours while **29** are late deaths reported after conducting facility record audits on diverse dates in the months of March, July and August 2021. This now pushes the cumulative fatalities to **4,241**. Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of those who have lost their loved ones.

New deaths by age; 0-9 years (**0**), 10-19 years (**1**), 20-29 (**0**), 30-39 years (**0**), 40-49 years (**9**), 50-59 years (**9**), 60 years and above (**11**).

Cumulative deaths by age; 0-9 years (**57**), 10-19 years (**32**), 20-29 (**125**), 30-39 years (**327**), 40-49 years (**499**), 50-59 years (**841**), 60 years and above (**2,360**).

A total of **1,813** patients are currently admitted in various health facilities countrywide, while **8,193** are under the Home-Based Isolation and Care program. **138** patients are in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), **64** of whom are on ventilatory support and **67** on supplemental oxygen. **7** patients are under observation.

Another **624** patients are separately on supplemental oxygen with **587** of them in general wards and **37** in High Dependency Units (HDU).

VACCINATION:

As of August 10th, 2021, a total of **1,881,988** vaccines have so far been administered across the country. Of these, total first doses are **1,160,809** while second doses are **721,179**. The uptake of the second dose among those who received their first dose is at **62.1%** with the majority being males at **55%** while females are at **45%**. Proportion of adults fully vaccinated is **2.6%**.

The uptake of the second dose by Priority Groups is as follows: Aged 58 years and above **221,527**, Others **212,746**, Health Workers **122,882**, Teachers **105,719** while Security Officers are at **58,305**.

Thank you.

Sen. Mutahi Kagwe, EGH
Cabinet Secretary

