



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR HEALTH**

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When replying please quote:

MOH/ADM/1/1(34)

15th May 2021

The County Executive Committee Members for Health

Thro'

The Chief Executive Officer
Council of Governors
Delta House- Westlands
NAIROBI

Ref: Change in COVID-19 Vaccination Schedule

The Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Health launched the National COVID-19 vaccinations on the 5th March 2021 after receiving 1,120,000 doses of the AstraZeneca Vaccine (Covishield) through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility and the Government of India. As of 16th May 2021, a total of 1,099,000 doses have been issued with a total of 935,370 persons vaccinated. This has accelerated progress towards halting the pandemic within our borders.

The initial recommendation on the vaccination schedule had guided that the two vaccine shots be administered between 6-8 weeks apart. However, emerging scientific evidence, has shown that increasing the interval between the two doses of the Covishield Vaccine by up to 12 weeks has greater immunological response. In line with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and the National Taskforce on COVID-19 Vaccines Deployment and Vaccination, **the Ministry of Health has revised the interval period for the administration of the second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine to 12 weeks.**

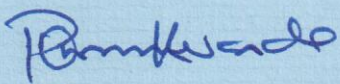


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This means that the country will begin administering the second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine from the first week of June 2021.

The purpose of this letter is therefore to inform you of the above changes, and to request you to cascade this information to all officers working under you.



Dr. Patrick Amoth, EBS

Ag. DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR HEALTH

Copy to: Cabinet Secretary
Chief Administrative Secretaries
Principal Secretary



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