

RADIO SPOT TALKING POINTS

Target audience

- Radio host (presenter)
- Radio guest – Health Expert
- Entire population – Eligible for vaccination

Breakthrough ACTION South Sudan has prepared this radio spot/talk show with the following objectives;

- To slow down and prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect people from severe illness, hospitalizations and death and to encourage the audience (the entire population of South Sudan who is eligible to get vaccinated).
- To reinforce the radio spot messages – this will make it easy for people to understand or get clarity on the radio spots.
- It gives the opportunity for the audience to ask questions from the guest.

1. Which COVID-19 vaccine is currently available in South Sudan?

- Johnson & Johnson (J&J)

2. How many doses should one take to be considered fully vaccinated?

- Johnson & Johnson (J&J) is only a single dose (shot)

3. How safe and effective is the J&J vaccine?

- The COVID-19 vaccine (J&J) can protect you and your loved ones against COVID-19 and from serious illness
- The J&J vaccine is safe for women and men who are planning on having children and women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- The vaccine does not impact fertility or pregnancies and is safe for breastfeeding mothers and their babies

4. Who is eligible to take the J&J vaccine?

- Anyone 18 years and above can take the J&J vaccine

5. Where can I find the J&J vaccine?

- J&J Vaccine is currently available in Ministry of Health facilities throughout country—hospitals (Giada Military Hospital & Juba Teaching Hospital, etc.), PHCCs ((Malakia PHCC, Nyakuron PHCC, Munuki PHCC, Kator PHCC, Gurei PHCC, Gumbo PHCC, etc), PHCUs and a few churches in Juba.
- If you are not sure where to find the nearest vaccination health facility, call toll-free hotline number 6666.

6. Are there side effects for the J&J vaccine? (What are they)?

- Like any vaccine, there may be mild side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. It's normal to feel COVID-19-like symptoms after you receive the COVID-19 vaccine. That means your body is working to build up protection. Your body is also building protection if you don't have any side effects.
- After taking a COVID-19 vaccine, some people may or may not have mild side effects like fever, a sore arm or pain at the injection site, headache, or fatigue. These side effects usually go away within a few days. If they persist for more than 48 hours, go to your nearest health clinic or call the hotline number 6666.
- Severe side effects are possible, but rare. A very small number of people have had blood clots after taking these vaccines. People should seek immediate medical care if they experience severe or constant headaches or blurred vision, shortness of breath, chest pain, leg swelling, persistent stomach pain, or easy bruising or tiny blood spots under the skin beyond the injection site after taking the vaccine.

7. If I hear anything about the J&J vaccine, but am not sure if what they are saying is true or not- how can I find out?

- To find out the facts about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit your nearest health center, call the hotline number 6666
- Other reliable Sources include the Ministry of Health (MOH) & World Health Organization (WHO).
- Remember that misinformation can cause harm- only share information you have confirmed from a reliable source.

8. What to remember?

- Even after vaccination, please continue taking other preventive measures such as practicing physical distancing at least one-meter, regular washing of hands with soap and use of hand sanitizer, and regular wearing of facemask when in public.

9. Why do I still have to wear a mask and follow other preventive measures if I have been vaccinated?

- Although you are Vaccinated, you can still be infected with Covid-19 but with reduced severity and you can still spread it to others. So, it is important to observe the preventive measures although you are vaccinated to avoid spreading Covid-19.

10. What can I do to encourage others to get vaccinated?

- Share your positive experience of getting vaccinated
- Remind them that the vaccine is safe and effective
- Offer to go with them to get vaccinated (if this is possible)
- Remind them that everyone has a responsibility to keep South Sudan safe from COVID-19.