

Protect oneself by receiving third dose of COVID-19 vaccine as early as possible (with photos)

The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is further expanded starting today (January 1). For persons who have received their second dose of the BioNTech vaccine or the Sinovac vaccine six months ago, now is the time to get their third dose.

Meanwhile, persons aged from 12 to 17 who have received their first dose of the BioNTech vaccine for at least 12 weeks can now receive the second dose of the BioNTech vaccine.

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Patrick Nip, visited the Lai Chi Kok Park Sports Centre today to see for himself the first day operation of the Community Vaccination Centre (CVC) there after the extension of its opening hours, and to appeal to the public to get vaccinated as early as possible.

To enable members of the public to receive vaccination, nine out of the 10 CVCs will operate daily with extended opening hours from 8am to 8pm. In addition, the number of vaccination stations at public hospitals has increased to 13, and the number of mobile vaccination stations will increase to two starting from January 7.

Members of the public can also get vaccinated at private clinics providing the Sinovac vaccination service, private healthcare institutions that have enrolled in the BioNTech Vaccination Pilot Scheme and the two designated clinics under the Hospital Authority providing the Sinovac vaccination service.

Mr Nip said, "New Year's Day does not only mark the beginning of the year, it also has another special meaning to us, as today marks a further expansion of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Currently, around 1.48 million persons have received two doses for six months, and 25 per cent of them have received the third dose as well. Eligible persons should take prompt action and get vaccinated to kick-start the year. We need active participation from every member of the public to make concerted efforts to boost the vaccination rate so as to build a protective barrier in the community.

"We should never try our luck under the epidemic. In fact, we are in a race against time with the highly transmissible mutant virus strains. We have to speed up the vaccination pace, in particular for elderly persons. Over 4.87 million persons did their part by getting vaccinated to build a protective barrier in Hong Kong. Under the spreading threat posed by mutant virus strains, the barrier may not be as strong as we think and may not be

strong enough to protect our medical system from collapsing. For persons who have taken their first and second doses, please check the vaccination date of the second dose in their vaccination records and be sure to receive their third dose on time. Vaccination is for self-protection and to reduce the risk of falling seriously ill and death should one get infected."

Starting from today, nine CVCs operate daily from 8am to 8pm. The HKU CVC at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong operates from 10am to 6pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8am to 8pm on Saturdays and Sundays; and is closed on Wednesdays. All CVCs close between 1.30pm and 2.30pm on working days for cleaning.

There are various channels for COVID-19 vaccination available for the public:

CVCs providing the Sinovac CoronaVac vaccine

Java Road Sports Centre in North Point
Kwun Chung Sports Centre in Jordan
Yuen Wo Road Sports Centre in Sha Tin

CVCs providing the Fosun/BioNTech Comirnaty vaccine

Sai Wan Ho Sports Centre
Hiu Kwong Street Sports Centre in Kwun Tong
Lai Chi Kok Park Sports Centre
Yuen Long Sports Centre
HKU CVC at Gleneagles Hospital Hong Kong in Wong Chuk Hang
CUHK Medical Centre in Sha Tin
Osman Ramju Sadick Memorial Sports Centre in Kwai Chung

All eligible persons can collect same-day tickets and get vaccinated at the CVCs (except those located at private hospitals) without prior booking.

Thirteen Hospital COVID-19 Vaccination Stations are located in Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, Yan Chai Hospital, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, Caritas Medical Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital, Queen Mary Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Tuen Mun Hospital, Pok Oi Hospital, North District Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital and Ruttonjee Hospital, providing the BioNTech vaccination service. Prior booking is not required. For details, please visit: www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/HA_HCVS_Location_ENG.pdf.

For the designated clinics under the Hospital Authority providing the Sinovac vaccination service by appointment, please visit: www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_HAGOPC_Venues.pdf.

For the list of doctors or clinics providing the Sinovac vaccination service, please refer to: www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/VSS.

The private healthcare institutions enrolled in the BioNTech Vaccination

Pilot Scheme provide the BioNTech vaccination service to the public at 24 venues. Members of the public can contact these institutions and clinics directly for a vaccination appointment, and booking through the designated website of the Vaccination Programme is not required. For enquiry hotlines and vaccination venues, please visit: www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/PrivatePilotScheme_BNT_en.pdf.

The service schedule of the mobile vaccination stations has been uploaded to the website (www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/List_Mobile_Vaccination_Station_ENG.pdf) and will be updated from time to time.

The designated website for the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme (www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/programme) provides the latest information including vaccination venues, reservation and enquiry hotlines.

