<u>Secretary for Food and Health approves</u> <u>lowering age limit for receiving</u> <u>Comirnaty vaccine</u>

The Secretary for Food and Health (SFH) today (June 3) approved the lowering of the age limit for receiving the Comirnaty vaccine to age 12.

The Department of Health has submitted to the Advisory Panel on COVID-19 Vaccines (Advisory Panel) earlier the application for lowering the age limit for receiving the Comirnaty vaccine to age 12, along with the relevant clinical trial data for consideration. After scrutinising the relevant information, the Advisory Panel advised the SFH to approve the application concerned.

Having regard to the advice of the Advisory Panel, and having considered the threat to public health posed by COVID-19, the SFH considered that the benefits of lowering the age limit for receiving the Comirnaty vaccine outweigh the risks. Not only can it protect adolescents from COVID-19 infection, it can also enable them to resume normal school and daily life as soon as possible.

The relevant arrangements for providing the Comirnaty vaccine to adolescents aged 12 to 15 will be announced early next week.