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சுவசிரிபாய  
SUWASIRIPAYA

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சுகாதார அமைச்சு  
Ministry of Health

මගේ අංකය ) EPID/400/n-CoV/Vaccine  
எனது இல )  
My No. )

ඔබේ අංකය )  
உமது இல )  
Your No. )

දිනය )  
திகதி ) 2022/12/22  
Date )

Director-NHSL,  
Provincial Directors of Health Services  
Regional Directors of Health Services  
Directors of all Teaching, Provincial General, General, and Base hospitals,

**Utilization of remaining COVID-19 Sinopharm (SARS-Cov-2 VERO Cell, Inactivated-BBIBP-CorV) vaccine to strengthen COVID vaccination campaign**

The Ministry of Health has taken the decision to utilize the remaining COVID -19 Sinopharm (SARS-Cov-2 VERO Cell, Inactivated-BBIBP-CorV) vaccine to strengthen the COVID vaccination campaign as follows:

- ❖ For anyone above **18 years** of age including pregnant mothers - to complete the primary vaccination (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> dose),
- ❖ For anyone above **18 years** of age including pregnant mothers who had taken one dose of any Covid-19 vaccine type - to complete the primary vaccination (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> dose),
- ❖ Provide the 1<sup>st</sup> booster dose for anyone above **20 years** of age who has completed 2 doses from any Covid-19 vaccine type & where the time elapsed is 3 months from the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose, irrespective of the comorbidity status, pregnancy, or lactation.
- ❖ Provide the 2<sup>nd</sup> booster dose for anyone above **20 years** of age who has completed 3 doses from any Covid-19 vaccine type & where the time elapsed is 3 months from the 3<sup>rd</sup> dose.  
**Regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> booster dose for pregnant mothers, follow the circular guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health (EPID/400/COVID-19/VOL 5 dated 04/08/2022)**

**Advice** strictly to follow the **SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine (Vero Cell), Inactivated (BIBP) vaccination campaign** guidelines issued on 06/06/2021 by the Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health found in www.epid.gov.lk for vaccine storage, vial preparation, administration, clinic preparation, follow up and surveillance of Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI).

Sinopharm vaccines present as five or two dose vials. In specific situations where fewer individuals are present, the supervising officer has the authority to decide upon opening a vial considering the circumstances.

The individual vaccination data should be entered into the web-based “vaccine tracker” system and the vaccination summary data should be entered into the web-based “e-NIP” system as per the instructions given by the Epidemiology Unit.

If you need any further technical clarifications, please contact the Chief Epidemiologist of the Epidemiology Unit. Additional resource materials can find on the website [www.epid.gov.lk](http://www.epid.gov.lk) .

Thank you,

  
**Dr. Asela Gunawardena**  
**Director General of Health Services**

**Dr. ASELA GUNAWARDENA**  
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Ministry of Health  
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Cc:

- i. Hon. Minister of Health
- ii. Secretary, Ministry of Health
- iii. Additional Secretary (Public Health Services)
- iv. Deputy Director General (PHS) -1
- v. Chief Epidemiologist
- vi. Director/MCH/FHB
- vii. Provincial and district CCPs
- viii. Regional Epidemiologists
- ix. MOO/MCH