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All Provincial Directors of Health Service All Regional Directors of Health Service All Heads of Line Ministry Institutions

## Re: Administration of an extra dose with COVISHIELD vaccines remaining in the vials

COVISHIELD vaccine currently using in Sri Lanka presents as multi-dose vials with 10 doses per vial. It is natural to remain the vaccine liquid in the vial after drawing the final dose from the vial. It has been brought to my notice that sometimes, the remaining liquid is adequate for administration of another dose (i.e., 0.5ml).

Therefore, you are requested to inform all the staff engage in COVISHIELD immunization to administer another dose if the remaining liquid in the vial after drawing the tenth dose is adequate for another dose.

Please note that it is particularly important that correct amount of 0.5 ml per dose should be carefully drawn for each dose without wasting the vaccine using auto-disable syringes provided for immunization.

All the doses administered should be recorded in relevant registers and databases.

If you need further clarifications, please contact the Epidemiology Unit.

Dr. ASELA GUNAWARDENA Director General of Health Services Ministry of Health

"Suwasiripaya" 385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha, Colombo 10.

Dr. Asela Gunawardena

**Director General of Health Services** 

Copy: Secretary

Deputy Director General (PHS)-1

Chief Epidemiologist