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SUWASIRIPAYA

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சுகாதார அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health

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திகதி) 09.2022
Date)

Deputy Director General – NHSL
Deputy Director General – NH Kandy
Provincial Directors of Health Services
Regional Directors of Health Services
Directors and Superintendents of Teaching, Provincial General, District General, and Base hospitals

Strengthening COVID 19 vaccination program – a special weekend campaign to complement the ongoing program

The COVID-19 vaccination program implemented in January 2021 by the Ministry of Health has significantly contributed to the low disease transmission and low mortality due to COVID-19 in the country. This has paved the way for returning to a near-normal lifestyle and resumption of economic activity which is crucial for economic recovery.

Whilst thanking national, provincial, and district-level healthcare staff for their commitment to achieving high levels of vaccine coverage, this directive is issued to further strengthen the COVID-19 vaccination program in the country in view of the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak globally and locally.

You are requested to take the following measures to organize a **special vaccination campaign on Saturday the 17th and 24th of September, and the 1st and 8th of October** to increase the availability of vaccination services to all eligible groups in your respective areas. On these specified dates,

- Each MOH office should conduct a minimum of **three vaccination centers in three locations** in the MOH area including the Central clinic. Additional staff that may be required is to be organized in coordination with the office of the Regional Director of Health Services. **The clinics should be open from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm.**
- All hospitals (Base hospitals and above), should conduct a vaccination clinic from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm and take measures to direct eligible people attending clinics in the hospital for vaccination.
- Due measures should be taken to **notify the public in advance** of the additional clinics organized within these days.
- Ensure that the following target populations are vaccinated during this campaign,
 - **First and second booster doses** to adults aged 20 years and above
 - **First and second doses to children** aged 12-19 years
- Note that this vaccination campaign should be conducted in addition to the routine COVID – 19 vaccination services that are delivered through the MOH offices and hospitals on other days of the week.

All vaccination clinics should be conducted in accordance with the guidelines on COVID -19 vaccination issued by the Ministry of Health. Special attention must be paid to the provision

of the circular titled "Minimizing inconveniences to the public in obtaining the booster dose vaccination while ensuring minimal vaccine wastage" dated 25.03.2022.

If you need any further clarifications, please contact the Chief Epidemiologist of the Epidemiology Unit.


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Cc:

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- ii. Secretary, Ministry of Health
- iii. Additional Secretary (Public Health Services)
- iv. Additional Secretary (Medical Services)
- v. Deputy Director General (PHS) -1
- vi. Deputy Director General (MS)
- vii. Chief Epidemiologist
- viii. Provincial and district Consultant Community Physicians
- ix. Regional Epidemiologists