

Updated information on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and vaccines

1. Government announces prevention and control measures and vaccination arrangements in new phase of resumption of normalcy

With the local epidemic situation continuing to subside, the management measures being aligned with upper respiratory tract illnesses, and social and economic activities resuming to full normalcy, the Government announced a new phase of prevention and control measures and vaccination arrangements.

For details, refer to: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202303/31/P2023033100694.htm>

2. RAT requirement in public hospitals and residential care homes was lifted on March 25

The Government announced that, as the COVID-19 epidemic continues to subside, the existing rapid antigen testing (RAT) requirement applicable to public hospitals as well as residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) and the residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) was lifted on March 25. Visitors of public hospitals, RCHEs and RCHDs are not required to undergo an RAT prior to their visits, whereas clinical staff of public hospitals as well as staff and residents of residential care homes (RCHs) are no longer required to undergo an RAT on a daily basis.

For details, refer to: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202303/22/P2023032200546.htm>

3. Scientific Committees under CHP update consensus interim recommendations on use of COVID-19 vaccine booster in 2023

The Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases and the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (JSC) under the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health, joined by the Chief Executive's expert advisory panel (EAP), convened a meeting to discuss and issue the updated consensus interim recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccine booster in Hong Kong this year.

For details, refer to: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202303/29/P2023032900779.htm>

4. Update on monitoring COVID-19 vaccination

In the preceding month till 11.59pm on March 28, the Department of Health (DH) received 12 reports (Note 1) of adverse events following COVID-19 immunisation. No death cases were reported by the Hospital Authority (HA) involving individuals who had received vaccines within 14 days before they passed away and had potential association with vaccination.

For details, refer to: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202303/31/P2023033100478.htm>

More information on COVID-19 vaccines:

www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/