

本署檔號 Our Ref. : (5) in DH SEB CD/8/27/6/1

來函檔號 Your Ref :

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30 May 2007

Dear Doctor,

Influenza Vaccination for the 2007/08 Season

I am pleased to inform you that the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) has provided updated recommendations on the use of influenza vaccine for the coming influenza season (07/08). The SCVPD recommends the following target groups of people receive influenza vaccination for the coming influenza season (for details please refer to our website at the URL http://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/sas6_Influenza_Vaccination_0708_20070530_en.pdf), which is the same as that of the last year:

- (A) Elderly persons living in residential care homes
- (B) Long-stay residents of institutions for the disabled
- (C) Elderly persons aged 65 years or above
- (D) Persons with chronic illnesses
- (E) Health care workers
- (F) Poultry workers
- (G) Children aged 6 to 23 months
- (H) All pregnant women

The SCVPD also advises other members of the public to consult their doctors for the need for vaccination for personal protection and/or reducing the risk of transmitting influenza to high risk persons with whom they regularly come into contact.

Taking into account of the SCVPD recommendations and other factors including individual health risks, prevention of institutional outbreaks, financial means of vaccine recipients and pandemic influenza preparedness, the Government Influenza Vaccination Programme (GIVP) 2007/08, similar to last year, will offer free influenza vaccination to the following eight groups of persons:

- (A) Elderly persons living in residential care homes;
- (B) Long-stay residents of institutions for the disabled;
- (C) Elderly persons aged 65 years or above with chronic illness and being followed up in public clinics, as well as those aged 65 years or above receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA);

- (D) Persons under 65 years with chronic illness receiving CSSA, and some long-stay Hospital Authority (HA) in-patients who had chronic illness;
- (E) Health care workers of Department of Health, HA and other government departments, as well as health care workers in elderly homes or institutions for the disabled;
- (F) Poultry workers or staff who may be involved in the poultry culling operations;
- (G) Children aged from six to 23 months from families receiving CSSA; and
- (H) All pregnant women receiving CSSA.

To ensure adequate supply of influenza vaccines for your clients, you may wish to consider vaccine procurement early. You may also find information on registered influenza vaccines in Hong Kong at the following website <http://www.psdh.gov.hk/eps/index.jsp>. Concerted efforts from both private and public sectors are needed for successful implementation of the SCVPD's recommendations and your continuous support is highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely



(Dr SK CHUANG)

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