Government Vaccine Contract for VSS Doctors Enrolled in the Chronic Disease Co-Care Pilot Scheme

8 & 16 July 2025

Background

- Health Bureau (HHB) Primary Healthcare Blueprint (2022)
 - **Primary Healthcare Commission (PHCC):** strengthen **coordination and governance** of primary healthcare services
 - Adopts strategic purchasing approach for the planning and resource allocation of primary healthcare services via Strategic Purchasing Office (SPO)
- Seasonal influenza vaccination: an important preventive measure in primary healthcare to protect individuals and communities from influenza and its complications
- Department of Health (DH): programmes to provide subsidised seasonal influenza vaccination to eligible high-risk population groups
 - Government Vaccination Programme (GVP)
 - Seasonal Influenza Vaccination School Outreach Programme (SIVSOP)
 - Residential Care Home Vaccination Programme (RVP)
 - Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS)

Existing Situations in 2024/25

Seasonal Influenza Vaccines (SIV) Supply - Current arrangement

- Government tender:
 - Arranged by **DH** for the supply of SIV
 - Awarded for an estimated quantity of 1 380 000 doses for a 12-month contract
- Private Doctors:
 - VSS doctors order in advance and procure SIV from suppliers direct and often opt for conservative quantities to prevent wastage
 - Unpredictable fluctuations in public demand >> Unstable supply, Impede vaccination drive due to availability issues

Figures of Subsidized Seasonal Influenza Vaccination (as of 9 March 2025)

- GVP, SIVSOP, RVP and VSS: around 2 000 000 doses administered
 - VSS: ~910 000 doses administered (~ 46% of the total administered via Subsidised programmes)
 - VSS doctors play a vital role in administering the SIV to the general public

New Arrangements for 2025/26 VSS

- Expansion of Eligible Groups
 - Persons aged 18-49 years with chronic medical problems
- Promulgation and Education
- Supply of SIV through Government Contract
 - In 2025/26, launching a pilot and transitional tender
 - To purchase an additional 100 000 doses of Inactivated Influenza Vaccines (IIV)
 - To test and build readiness of vaccine suppliers, VSS doctors and IT system
 - In the long run, explore extending the SIV supply coverage to total population
 - Pulling together purchasing power
 - To reduce uncertainties in market supply and able to achieve lower vaccine price

Business Model

Government's Position

- Set up contracts with suppliers: allow "Specified VSS Family Doctors" to draw SIV at a specified quantity for eligible persons under the VSS at a price set by the Government
 - As an alternative source of vaccine supply
 - "Specified VSS Family Doctors" can also use vaccines procured from private market
- "Specified VSS Family Doctors"
 - Joined both VSS and CDCC Pilot Scheme in the period specified by the Government
- Co-payment Setting if Drawing SIV from Government Contract
 - Required to set the Co-payment of SIV(IIV) at \$0 across all eligible persons
 - Eligible persons can benefit directly from Government bulk purchase of lower cost vaccines
 - For other type of vaccine including RIV, LAIV, doctors can set separate co-payment

Way Forward

- Planning for 2026/27 Seasonal Influenza Vaccination
 - Review the 2025/26 initiations and make improvements for the 2026/27 vaccine supply arrangement
 - Explore a tender for supply of SIV for 2026/27 with a view to enable all VSS doctors to draw SIV from the Government contract

Thank You