



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

**Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases
and
Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases**

**Consensus Interim Recommendations on
the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in Hong Kong
(As of 1 December 2022)**

Introduction

On 13 October 2022, the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) and the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (SCEZD) under the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health (JSC) with the Chief Executive's expert advisory panel (EAP), considered that the Comirnaty bivalent (original and Omicron BA.4/BA.5) vaccine, when available, can be used as another choice to the fourth dose of the current ancestral strain vaccines for eligible persons aged 12 years or above (or the third dose for persons with past history of COVID-19 infection). The dosing intervals should follow the current vaccination schedule.

2. On 1 December 2022, the JSC-EAP revisited the interim recommendations related to the use of COVID-19 vaccines in Hong Kong, in view of recent increase in COVID-19 activities in the community as well as residential care homes.



Use of COVID-19 vaccines in residential care homes

3. In view of the low coverage of the fourth dose of COVID-19 vaccine in RCHE, the recent surge in COVID-19 cases and the anticipating winter surge, residents who are due for the fourth dose should undergo vaccination as soon as feasible.

4. Taking into account overseas practice and the availability of Comirnaty bivalent vaccine which matched with the circulating strain in Hong Kong, RCHE residents who have received at least two vaccine doses (or at least one dose with previous COVID-19 infection) may choose to receive Comirnaty bivalent vaccine as another choice for their next dose following the current vaccination schedule.

5. RCHE residents who have completed four vaccine doses (or three doses with previous COVID-19 infection) may choose to receive an additional dose at least three months after their last dose or recovery (whichever is later) for personal protection. Comirnaty bivalent vaccine is preferred but personal choice of other vaccine (Comirnaty or CoronaVac ancestral strain vaccine) is respected under informed consent.

6. The aforesaid recommendations also apply to residents in the residential care homes for persons with disabilities.

Use of COVID-19 vaccine in other adults

Immunocompetent adults aged 18 years or above

7. Other immunocompetent adults aged 18 years or above who have received at least two doses of COVID-19 vaccine (or at least one dose with previous COVID-19 infection) may choose to receive Comirnaty bivalent vaccine as another choice for their next dose following the current vaccination schedule.

8. In addition, noting some adults in the community have received four

doses of COVID-19 vaccine (or three doses with previous COVID-19 infection) for more than six months, JSC-EAP considered that they may choose to receive an additional dose of vaccine at least six months after their last dose or recovery (whichever is later) for personal protection under informed consent. The choice of vaccine could be CoronaVac / Comirnaty ancestral strain vaccine or Comirnaty bivalent vaccine.

Immunocompromised adults aged 18 years or above

9. Immunocompromised adults aged 18 years or above who have completed four doses of COVID-19 vaccine (or three doses with previous COVID-19 infection) may choose to receive a further vaccine dose at least three months after their last dose or recovery (whichever is later) for personal protection under informed consent.

10. Only those who had received at least three doses (or at least two doses with previous COVID-19 infection) of ancestral strain vaccine may choose to receive Comirnaty bivalent vaccine as the subsequent dose.

11. The aforesaid interim recommendations provide a supplement on top of the previous recommendations regarding the use of COVID-19 vaccines dated 13 October 2022.

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