



Points to Note and Frequently Asked Questions on COVID-19 Vaccination for Children and Adolescents



1) What types of COVID-19 vaccines are available in Hong Kong under the Government Vaccination Programme?

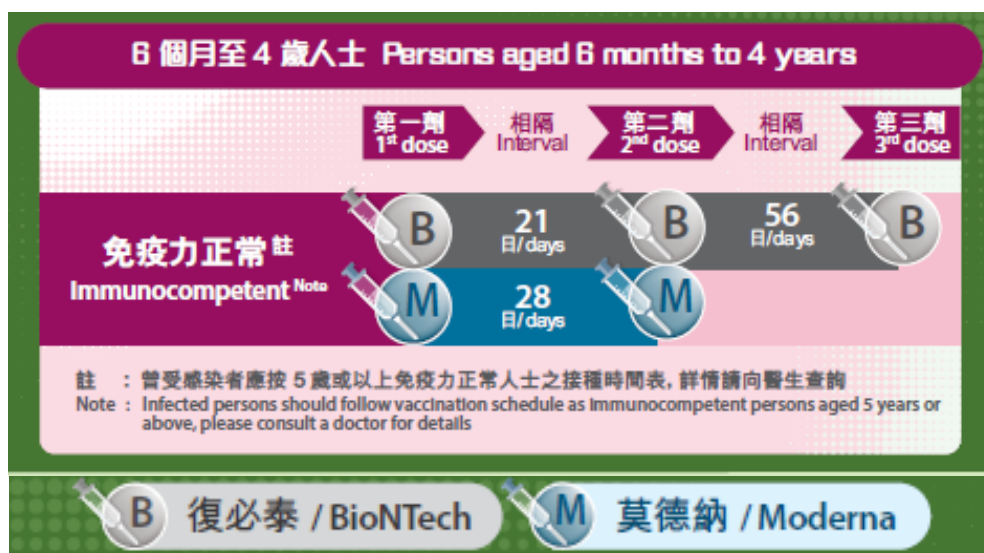
To learn more about the current and previous COVID-19 vaccines available to the members of the public under the programme, please browse Frequently Asked Question 3 (https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/106953.html#FAQ_A3).

2) How many doses of COVID-19 vaccination do immunocompetent children and adolescents aged 6 months to 17 years need for initial doses?

For immunocompetent children aged 6 months to 4 years **without** prior COVID-19 infection, those with the following vaccines are considered to have completed the initial doses:

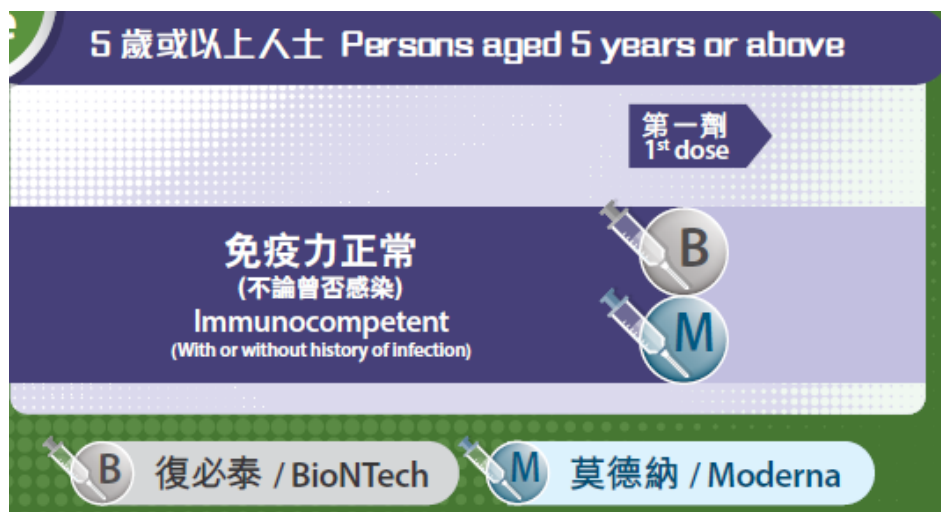
- Three doses of BioNTech vaccine; or
- Two doses of Moderna vaccine; or
- Two doses of inactivated vaccine (e.g. Sinovac); or
- At least one dose of BioNTech vaccine and at least one dose of Moderna vaccine; or
- At least one dose of inactivated vaccine and at least one dose of Moderna vaccine; or
- At least one dose of inactivated vaccine and at least two doses of BioNTech vaccine.

For immunocompetent children aged 6 months to 4 years **without** prior COVID-19 infection who have not yet completed the initial doses, they should follow the vaccination schedule below to complete their initial doses.



For immunocompetent children aged 6 months to 4 years **with** prior COVID-19 infection, those who have received one dose of mRNA vaccine (BioNTech or Moderna) vaccine or two doses of inactivated vaccine are considered to have completed the initial doses (refer to vaccination schedule for immunocompetent persons aged 5 or above).

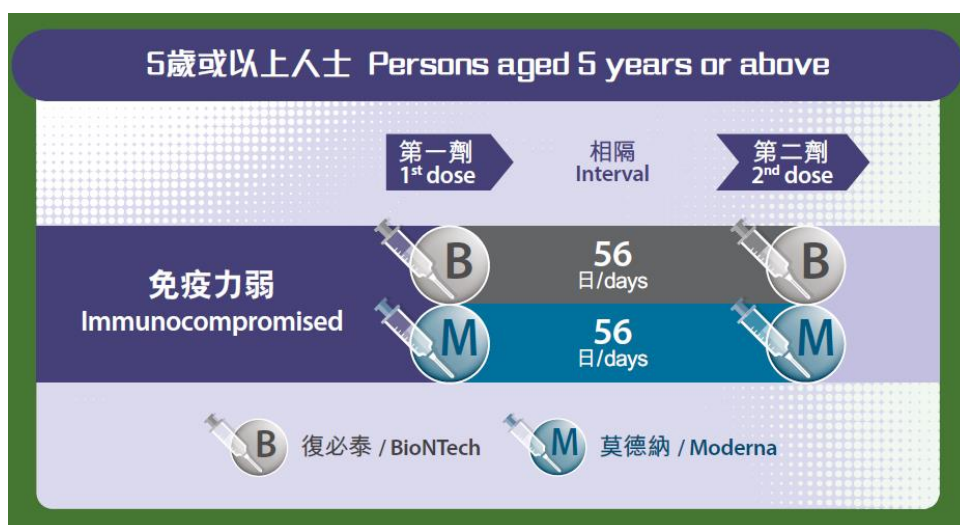
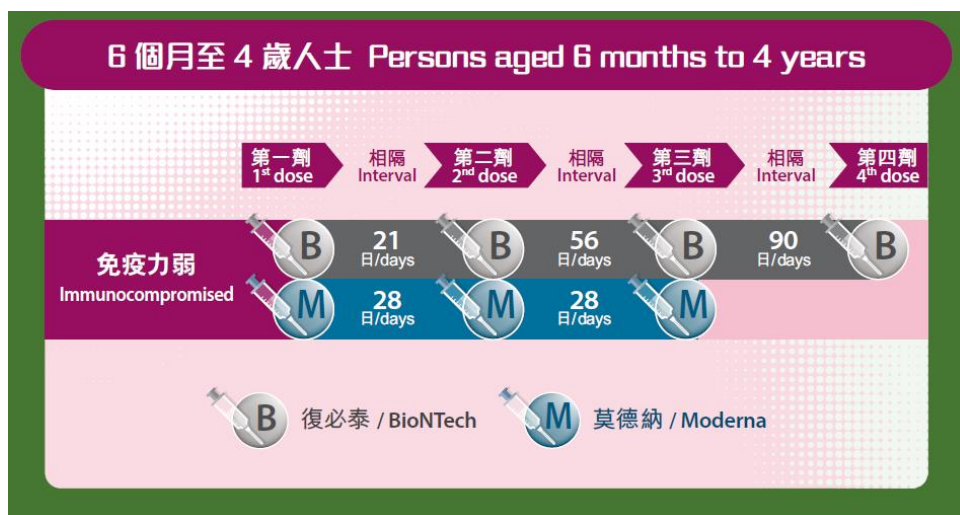
For immunocompetent persons aged 5 years or above, regardless of their history of infection, those who have received one dose of mRNA vaccine (BioNTech or Moderna) vaccine or two doses of inactivated vaccine are considered to have completed the initial doses. They would only need to take one dose of BioNTech or Moderna vaccine if they have not yet completed the initial doses.



The Government will provide either brand of age-appropriate mRNA COVID-19 vaccine to children and adolescents based on the vaccine availability.

3) How many doses of COVID-19 vaccination do immunocompromised children and adolescents aged below 18 years need for initial doses?

Regardless of their history of infection, immunocompromised children and adolescents should follow the vaccination schedule as below to complete the initial doses.



Immunocompromised persons below 18 years old have to bring the signed parent/guardian consent form and the doctor's letter, and be accompanied by their parent or guardian in person to the vaccination venue on the day of vaccination. For details of the specific groups of immunocompromised patients, please refer to the thematic website FAQ 28 (https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/106953.html#FAQ_C28). Please also consult your healthcare professionals for details.

- 4) If my child is aged 4 turning into 5 after the start of the COVID-19 initial doses vaccination, what is the vaccination arrangement for him/her?**

For children who have started the initial doses vaccination but not yet completed all required doses and transited from age 4 years to 5, please walk in the vaccination venue providing COVID-19 vaccine for children to receive the remaining initial dose(s) as 4 years old persons.

- 5) If my child has already received one or two doses of BioNTech toddler vaccine (applicable for 6 months to 4 years old), but BioNTech toddler vaccine is no longer available under**

the Government Vaccination Programme, can my child receive Moderna vaccine to complete the initial doses?

For immunocompetent children aged 6 months to 4 years **without** prior COVID-19 infection, if they have received one or two dose(s) of BioNTech toddler vaccine, they can receive one more dose of Moderna vaccine 90 days after the last dose in order to complete the initial doses.

6) If my child has already received one dose of inactivated vaccine (e.g. Sinovac vaccine), should he/she continue to receive vaccine?

For immunocompetent children who has received one dose of inactivated vaccine (e.g. Sinovac vaccine), they can receive one more dose of COVID-19 vaccine to complete the initial doses. They are considered to have completed the initial doses if two or more doses of inactivated vaccine have been received. (Please also read Q2 for reference.) Immunocompromised children and adolescent are recommended to continue the initial and booster doses according to the vaccination schedule whenever feasible. (Please also read Q3 and Q9 for reference.)

7) What is the recommended administration route and site of COVID-19 vaccine?

Children and adolescents are recommended by experts to receive mRNA vaccine intramuscularly at anterolateral aspect of mid-thigh, although their preference for an injection at upper arm (not applicable to infants) would be respected. They can wear loose-fitting, easy to roll-up or other suitable clothing for ease of vaccination.

8) What should I do if I am unable to make a booking for COVID-19 vaccination?

For eligible children between 6 months and 11 years old who cannot make online bookings (e.g. children who are not holding Hong Kong Identity Card or Hong Kong Birth Certificate, children who received COVID-19 vaccine outside Hong Kong, children who have not yet completed the mRNA initial doses and transited from age 4 years to age 5 years etc.), they can bring along the completed consent forms and be accompanied by an adult to go to the vaccination venues (except for those required prior booking) at the recommended vaccination interval according to experts' advice. Staff at vaccination venues will reserve small amount of daily quota for their vaccination. As the arrangement on vaccination venues is subject to change, please check the COVID-19 webpage at <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/106952.html> before you make a visit.

9) Who can receive booster?

Under the Government Programme, immunocompromised children and adolescent who have completed initial doses may receive an additional booster free of charge, 180 days after last dose received or COVID-19 infection (whichever is later).

10) Can children and adolescents who are not recommended to receive booster dose under Government Programme receive self-paid vaccination?

The private market would provide the vaccination for registered COVID-19 vaccine (self-paid), which is outside the Government Vaccination Programme. The vaccine manufacturer / supplier would freely choose to import the registered vaccine and sell to private medical organisation or doctor for non-Government programme use. Persons who would like to receive COVID-19 vaccine outside the Government Vaccination Programme should consult a family doctor on the supply of registered COVID-19 vaccine in private market and consider receiving the vaccination for personal protection outside the Government Vaccination Programme **at their own expenses**.

11) Is COVID-19 vaccine safe and effective for children and adolescents aged 6 months to 17 years?

Experts opined that currently approved COVID-19 vaccines in Hong Kong are highly effective to lower the risk of severe disease or death.

BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have been assessed by experts and considered safe and effective.

In order to prevent outbreaks in schools, vaccinated children and adolescents should continue to observe personal hygiene and various infection control measures after returning to schools.

12) What are the possible side effects of COVID-19 vaccine for children and adolescents aged 6 months to 17 years?

Please refer to relevant Vaccination Fact Sheet or consult healthcare providers for details.

13) Can children and adolescents aged 6 months to 17 years receive COVID-19 vaccination if he / she has received / will receive another vaccine recently?

COVID-19 vaccines can be co-administered with, or at any time before or after, any other vaccines including live attenuated vaccines under informed consent. If clients / parents of children wish to space out COVID-19 vaccine with live attenuated vaccines (e.g. Measles, Mumps, Rubella & Varicella (MMRV) Vaccine; Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)), an interval of 14 days is sufficient.

14) Where can children and adolescents at 6 months to 17 years old get COVID-19 vaccines and what documents to bring?

For latest vaccination arrangement and venues, please refer to the COVID-19 webpage at <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/106952.html>.

Documents to bring:

Persons aged below 18 years should bring along the Consent Form for COVID-19 Vaccination completed by their parents or guardians and the original identity document for COVID-19 Vaccination.

For children aged 3 to 11 years, an accompanying adult (e.g. adult relative, domestic helper or school teacher if the child receives vaccination via group arrangements by schools) is required to be present physically at the venue on the day of vaccination. If the identity document of the children (e.g. birth certificate) does not bear a photo, please remember to bring their latest student's handbook bearing their photograph for verification. Should the identity document of the child does not bear a photo and the child does not have student's handbook or other identity document with photo, discretion will be exercised to verify the identity of the child by other means in light of the circumstances.

For children aged below 3 years, parents are required to present the original copy of the identity document (e.g. birth certificate) of the child and bring along a consent form on the date of vaccination of the children. The children should be accompanied by their parents/guardians in person when receiving vaccination. If the vaccination is arranged by the school / centre in group, the accompanying teacher or staff should bring the aforementioned required documents and be responsible in clearly indicating the identity of each child.

For immunocompromised children and adolescents, an accompanying parent or guardian is required to be present physically at the venue on the day of vaccination. They should also bring the relevant doctor's letter to the vaccination venue.

15) For children and adolescents who got COVID-19 vaccines outside Hong Kong, what should they do?

For those eligible public who received COVID-19 vaccine outside Hong Kong, please bring along the identity document, proof of your previous dose vaccination record (with date, venue of vaccination and type of vaccine) issued outside Hong Kong on the vaccination day. If they cannot make an appointment for the next dose with correct dose sequence of the vaccine through the online system, they may directly go to the vaccination venues for vaccination. Vaccination may be provided by staff after clarification and consideration of relevant details, including those of the previous dose vaccination. For details, please refer to FAQ 24 and 31 (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/106953.html>)

16) How can I use the electronic ways to access the vaccination record?

A paper vaccination record will be provided to the children and adolescents after receiving vaccine. For accessing the electronic version of the COVID-19 vaccination record, parents or guardians could register the Electronic Health System (eHealth) online (<https://apps.ehealth.gov.hk/oles/#/?lang=en>).

Please refer to website (<https://www.ehealth.gov.hk/en/index.html>) or contact eHealth Registration Office at 3467 6300 for more details.

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Please refer <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/106934.html> for the most updated information



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