



本署檔號 Our Ref. : ( 8 ) in DH/VO/P1-2 Pt.2  
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10 April 2018

Dear doctor,

### New Initiatives for 2018/19 Seasonal Influenza Vaccination

We are writing to invite doctors to join the new initiatives of outreach vaccination for schools for 2018/19 season.

Currently, free or subsidised seasonal influenza vaccination are provided to eligible groups through the following programme/ scheme:-

- a) free under Government Vaccination Programme (GVP)
- b) subsidised under Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS) at clinics of private doctors enrolled in the VSS or in the outreach vaccination activities organised by VSS doctors

In the coming 2018/19, the Department of Health will introduce a number of new initiatives for seasonal influenza vaccination. In particular, the new **School Outreach Vaccination Pilot Programme** and the **Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination** (an enhanced programme of the existing outreach vaccination under VSS) will provide free seasonal influenza vaccination to children at primary schools.

Details are as follows:-

#### *The Pilot Programme*

*The Pilot Programme aims to increase seasonal influenza vaccination uptake amongst **primary school children** and to facilitate **primary schools** to arrange outreach vaccination.*

*Under the Pilot Programme, the Government will arrange vaccination teams, either by the Government or via Public-Private-Partnership (PPP), to provide outreach vaccination for the participating schools.*

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## ***Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination at Primary Schools/ Kindergartens/ Child Care Centres/ Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres***

*The Government will enhance outreach vaccinations at primary schools, kindergartens (KGs), child care centres (CCCs) and kindergarten-cum-child care centres (KG-cum-CCCs) under VSS, including increasing subsidies (from HKD\$190 to HKD\$250 per eligible student) for outreach at these institutions and a subsidy for clinical waste disposal (at HKD\$800 per outreach activity).*

### ***A new Target Group for VSS in 2018/19***

*Starting from 2018/19, VSS will be expanded to cover Hong Kong residents aged 50 to 64.*

### ***Increase Subsidy for Seasonal Influenza Vaccination***

*Starting from 2018/19, the subsidy for seasonal influenza vaccination provided to eligible groups at clinics or other non-clinic settings will be increased from HKD\$190 to HKD\$210 per dose. Children aged 9 or below who have never received seasonal influenza vaccination before are eligible for subsidy of 2 doses of seasonal influenza vaccination within the season.*

### ***Continuous Medical Education (CME) Requirements***

*Starting from 2018/19 season, for any doctor who newly applies or continues enrolment in VSS, he/ she should have enrolled in the Primary Care Directory (PCD) first before he/ she is eligible to enrol in the VSS. The Vaccination Office would check whether the VSS doctors are on the PCD list around August 2018. For doctors who have not yet enrolled in the PCD, please enrol before August 2018/19. For doctors who have already enrolled in PCD, please make sure you have acquired sufficient CME points for the CME cycle Jan 2017-Dec 2017 in order to remain on the list of PCD.*

Please find the information paper in the **Annex** and visit our website <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/100347.html> for more details.



Doctors are invited to join the PPP Mode of the Pilot Programme and/ or the Enhanced Vaccination Subsidy Scheme Outreach Vaccination.

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For those who are currently participating in the VSS and are interested in joining the above Pilot Programme and/or Enhanced Programme, please return the completed Reply Slip and fax or email to us **latest by 20 April 2018**.

For those who have not yet enrolled in VSS, please enrol. Details of enrolment are on our website <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45849.html>. Doctors must enrol in VSS before they can join the Pilot Programme and/or Enhanced Programme.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact us at 2125 2125.

Thank you very much for your assistance in advance.

Yours faithfully,



( Dr Liza TO )

for Controller, Centre for Health Protection



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**The 2018/19 Seasonal Influenza Vaccination**  
**School Outreach Vaccination Pilot Programme,**  
**Enhanced Vaccination Subsidy Scheme Outreach Vaccination,**  
**and Other VSS Outreach Vaccination**

## **Background**

In order to lower the risk of serious complications and hospitalisation from seasonal influenza infection, the Government has been providing subsidised seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) to eligible children aged 6 months to 12 years (or aged 12 years or above but attending primary schools in Hong Kong) under the Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS). Other eligible children may receive free SIV under the Government Vaccination Programme.

Thanks to support from VSS doctors, VSS has been running smoothly providing subsidised SIV to children either at VSS doctor's clinic or at non-clinic settings, such as kindergartens and primary schools.

To increase SIV uptake rate amongst primary school children and to facilitate primary schools to arrange outreach vaccination, the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) will launch the **School Outreach Vaccination Pilot Programme** and the **Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination** in the 2018/19 school year.

Under these two initiatives, the following **3 types of outreach vaccination** will become available to primary schools:

- a) Government Outreach Teams (DH Mode)
- b) Public-Private-Partnership Outreach Teams (PPP Mode)
- c) Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination

### **Government Outreach Team (DH mode)**

DH will be responsible for delivering the entire outreach vaccination in primary schools by DH's own resources. DH will be responsible for procurement of SIVs, liaison with schools (with the assistance of EDB), delivery of vaccines to schools, conducting vaccination and arrangement on disposal of clinical waste.

### **Public-Private-Partnership Outreach Team (PPP mode)**

DH will match interested VSS doctors with the participating schools to provide outreach vaccination. DH will be responsible for purchasing SIVs and the delivery logistics. DH will also be arranging disposal of clinical waste. Designated VSS doctors will make

appointment with the schools directly and send their own staff to obtain consent forms, check vaccination history, assess fitness for vaccination, provide the vaccination, enter vaccination record on eHealth system (subsidies), as well as observe for post-vaccination reactions. The VSS doctor should be responsible for their vaccination staff, to receive the vaccines, and to await for collection of unused vaccines and clinical waste.

Participating VSS doctors will be given HKD\$70 as injection fee for each dose of SIV given to primary school children during the outreach vaccination. They could not charge extra service fees. VSS doctors are required to provide second dose at schools for those children under 9 years of age who have never received SIV before. It is expected that the first dose should be given within 2 sessions and the second dose should be given within 1 session.

### **Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination**

VSS doctors may also participate in the Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination. Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination applies to primary schools, kindergartens (KGs), child care centres (CCCs) and Kindergarten-cum-Child Care Centres (KG-cum-CCCs). VSS doctors have to liaise with schools on their own to provide vaccination. They are also responsible for purchasing SIVs, vaccine delivery, collection of remaining vaccines and clinical waste disposal.

Participating VSS doctors will be given HKD\$250 for each dose of SIV given to the students who are Hong Kong residents receiving vaccination during the outreach vaccination. HKD \$800 will be given to the VSS doctor for clinical waste disposal per vaccination session. Doctors could not charge extra service fee from the schools and the parents of the school children. Doctors need to submit claims via eHealth system (subsidies). Similar to the Pilot Programme, VSS doctors are required to provide second dose at schools for those children under 9 years of age who have never received SIV before.

Children who are Hong Kong residents and aged between 6 months to under 12 years have become an eligible group for subsidised SIV under VSS since 2016/17 season. School children from the same eligible group who are attending KG, CCC, KG-cum-CCC or primary school in Hong Kong can participate in the enhanced outreach vaccination in 2018/19.

### **Other VSS Outreach Vaccination**

The Pilot Programme and Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination aim to improve SIV uptake rate among children, other people such as parents, family members, school staff are not eligible to join.

VSS doctors may continue to provide outreach vaccination under VSS for the other eligible groups (such as pregnant women, persons with intellectual disability, etc.) at doctor's clinic or at non-clinic settings. The vaccination subsidy will be increased to HKD\$210 for each dose of SIV given. The VSS doctors may charge extra service fee from the recipient. For details, please visit <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45849.html> on CHP website

### **Comparison of the various Outreach Activities in 2018/19 school year**

The major differences between each types of outreach vaccination in 2018/19 year are tabulated below:

	Pilot Programme		Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination (for schools)	Other VSS Outreach Vaccination
	Government Outreach Team (DH Mode)	PPP Outreach Team (PPP Mode)		
<b>Eligible group</b>	Primary school children	Primary school children	School children (Hong Kong residents) attending KG, CCC, KG-cum-CCC or Primary School	All eligible groups under VSS
<b>Setting</b>	Primary School	Primary School	KG, CCC, KG-cum-CCC or Primary School	Non-clinic setting (e.g. community hall, district council office, etc.)
<b>Choice of school</b>	Arranged by DH	Arranged by DH	VSS doctor's own choice	Not applicable
<b>Vaccine procurement</b>	By DH	By DH	By VSS doctor	By VSS doctor
<b>Vaccine delivery</b>	By DH	By DH (but VSS doctor needs to arrange manpower to receive vaccine at school)	By VSS doctor	By VSS doctor
<b>Responsible doctor *</b>	DH	VSS doctor	VSS doctor	VSS doctor
<b>Notify Department of Health</b>	Not applicable	Notify DH two weeks in advance after confirming the date of vaccination and the number of school children receiving vaccination		
<b>Preparation: e.g, fix the date, venue, collect consent forms</b>	By DH	VSS doctor to liaise with the school	VSS doctor to liaise with the school	VSS doctor to liaise with the organisation
<b>Administration of vaccination</b>	By DH	Supervised by VSS doctor	Supervised by VSS doctor	Supervised by VSS doctor
<b>Collection of unused vaccine/ clinical waste</b>	Arranged by DH	Arranged by DH (but VSS doctor needs to arrange manpower to await collection of unused vaccine/ clinical waste)	Arranged by VSS doctor (with HKD \$800 subsidy)	Arranged by VSS doctor

	Pilot Programme		Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination (for schools)	Other VSS Outreach Vaccination
	Government Outreach Team (DH Mode)	PPP Outreach Team (PPP Mode)		
<b>To provide second dose for children under age 9 who have never received SIV before</b>	By DH at school	Yes and to be provided at school	Yes and to be provided at school	Optional
<b>Subsidy for vaccination provided</b>	Not applicable	HKD\$70 as injection fee for each dose of SIV given	HKD\$250 for each dose of SIV given (including vaccine cost)	HKD\$210 for each dose of SIV given (including vaccine cost)
<b>Extra Service Fee chargeable</b>	Not applicable	Not allowed	Not allowed	Allowable
<b>To provide mop up for students who have missed the outreach vaccination</b>	No, primary school children (who are Hong Kong residents) can get vaccination from any VSS doctors, with a subsidy of HKD\$210 for each dose of SIV given; extra service fee may be charged.			Optional

\* To ensure safe and quality vaccination service provided, VSS doctor joining any of the teams or outreach vaccinations are required to observe the guidelines of *VSS Doctors' Guide* (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>) and adopt proper measures on infection control, vaccine delivery and storage, emergency management of adverse event etc.



To: Vaccination Office	Name of Enrolled Doctor	:	_____
Fax Number: 2713 9576	Service Provider ID	:	_____
Email Address: <a href="mailto:vacs@dh.gov.hk">vacs@dh.gov.hk</a>	Name of Medical		_____
(Please fax or email to	Organisation	:	_____
Vaccination Office <b>on or before</b>	Contact Number	:	_____
<b>20 April 2018)</b>	Contact Email	:	_____
	Date	:	_____

**Application to Join School Outreach Vaccination Pilot Programme/  
Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination (for school year 2018/19)**

- Please put a “✓” into the appropriate boxes.
- Please fax or email your return (if any) to Vaccination Office **on or before 20 April 2018.**

**Public-Private-Partnership Outreach Team (PPP Mode)**

☐ I apply to join the PPP Mode of the Pilot Programme in the school year 2018/19, and agree to supervise my vaccination team to provide outreach seasonal influenza vaccination to the primary schools as designated by Department of Health (DH) within the designated period, in accordance with the guidelines of *VSS Doctors' Guide* (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>).

I have also assessed my capacity to provide the vaccination outreach based on the assumptions listed on the **Annex**, and would like to take up the following number of primary schools.

Number of primary schools: \_\_\_\_\_ (max. 25 schools)

**Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination (for primary schools/ kindergartens (KGs)/ child care centres (CCCs)/ KG-cum-CCCs)**

☐ I apply to join the Enhanced VSS Outreach Vaccination (for schools) in the school year 2018/19, and agree to conduct the outreach in accordance with the guidelines of *VSS Doctors' Guide* (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>) and have my name and name of practice to be listed on the “*List of Doctors Providing Vaccination at School Settings*” on the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) website.

**Please note that joining Primary Care Directory (PCD) is a mandatory requirement for private medical practitioners enroll/ re-enroll to 2018/19 VSS and afterwards.**

- ☐ I have already joined the PCD and would still be on the PCD in August 2018.
- ☐ I will join the PCD before August 2018, to prepare for the 2018/19 Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS).

The link to the eligibility in joining the PCD is appended below:-

<https://apps.pcdirectory.gov.hk/SP/Main/Main.aspx>

**Assumptions for doctors' to assess his/ her manpower capacity to provide vaccination outreach under the PPP Mode of the Pilot Programme**

1. Each school has around 500-900 students.
2. The actual number of students who will consent for vaccinations in each school may vary.
3. For each school, the PPP Outreach Team has to complete the first dose within 2 days and the second dose within 1 day.
4. The vaccination period for first dose of seasonal influenza will be from mid- October to December 2018. The second dose should be given at least 4 weeks after the first dose and should be completed by January 2019.
5. The outreach activity should be carried out at school hours and on school days (Monday to Friday).

**Suggested manpower (for reference)**

The suggested manpower for a primary school with 6 classes in each grade:

- The VSS doctor is responsible for the whole vaccination activity. The doctor should preferable to be present at the venue, or else should be reachable at any time during the activity.
- 1 team leader (The VSS doctor/ another doctor / a nurse) should be on-site and in-charge-of the whole vaccination activity. The duties including but not limited to ensuring proper maintenance of the cold chain of vaccines; proper administration of the vaccines, correct return of unused vaccines and proper handling of clinical waste, and also handling any incidents occurred on-site.
- 6 trained staff for injection
- Other supporting staff (to sign receipt of the vaccine; to wait for clinical waste collector to collect the clinical waste or vaccine supplier to collect the unused vaccine; to help set up; and to check records, etc.)