香港特別行政區政府 衞生署 項目管理及疫苗計劃科

九龍紅磡德豐街 18-22 號 海濱廣場二座 3 樓



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT & VACCINATION DIVISION 3/F, TWO HARBOURFRONT, 18-22 TAK FUNG STREET, HUNG HOM, KOWLOON

本署檔號 OUR REF.: (84) in DH/ERPM/PMV/VS/VSS/P1-2 電 話 TEL.: 2125 2299 圖文傳真 FAX: 2713 9576

BY EMAIL

18 May 2021

1

Dear VSS Doctor,

<u>Maintain Listing in Primary Care Directory</u> <u>Order Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2021/22 Vaccination Subsidy Scheme</u> <u>Expiry Date of Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2020/21</u>

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your contribution to the 2020/21 Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS). As at 9 May 2021, a total of over 526,000 doses of seasonal influenza vaccine (SIV) were administered under VSS in 2020/21, representing a 4.1% increase over the same period last year. For the coming year, your continuous support will be most important in promoting SIV to the community.

While we are preparing the implementation and launch of VSS for 2021/22 season, we would like to highlight the following for your attention and necessary action to get prepared.

Maintain Listing in Primary Care Directory

Doctors who have already enrolled in VSS must maintain listing in the Primary Care Directory (PCD). If you wish to continue enrolment in VSS in the coming 2021/22 season, please ensure that you are listed in PCD when the new season commences. Doctors who could not meet this requirement may be temporarily suspended from providing service under 2021/22 VSS until fulfilling PCD's requirement and listed in PCD again.

To maintain listing in PCD, doctors are required to comply with the "Conditions for Maintenance of Listing" which have been set out on the PCD Website. (https://www.pcdirectory.gov.hk/primary_care_provider/maintenance_of_listing.html? lang=2). The Primary Healthcare Office of Food and Health Bureau will conduct regular checking of the Continuing Medical Education (CME) attainment of enrolled doctors in January and July of each calendar year. You may wish to refer to the <u>Annex</u> regarding the CME attainment to be considered in the coming checking exercise.

For enquiries related to PCD, please contact the Primary Healthcare Office of the Food and Health Bureau at 3576 3658 or <u>pho@fhb.gov.hk</u>.

Order Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Early for 2021/22 VSS

The Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases has made Recommendations on Seasonal Influenza Vaccination for the 2021-22 Season in Hong There is increasing evidence suggesting that co-infection of COVID-19 and Kong. influenza increases morbidity and mortality, and influenza vaccination might reduce the likelihood of hospitalisation and length of stay. As the risk groups of COVID-19 and influenza are similar, it is important to ensure that people who are at greater risk of influenza infection (e.g. health workers, older adults and pregnant women) are prioritised to receive SIV. You may wish to refer to the details of the recommendations available at the Centre for Health Protection Website (https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/recommendations_on_siv_for_the_2021_april2021. pdf).

Eligible groups for SIV under VSS will remain the same as in 2020/21. The subsidy level for SIV administered to eligible persons under VSS will remain at <u>\$240</u> per dose.

In order to minimize the impact of shortage in supply, we wish to remind you to estimate the amount of vaccines you would use and place order early with the supplier to secure sufficient vaccines for the coming 2021/22 season. Vaccine production takes time and supply of vaccines may not be available for late order or re-order.

Expiry Date of Seasonal Influenza Vaccine for 2020/21

The batches of SIV for 2021/21 season will expire starting from 31 May 2021. Please <u>check the expiry date</u> of remaining stock of SIV kept in your practices and make sure any vaccine to be administered to client is within its validity period. Expired vaccines should be disposed according to relevant guidelines.

Once again we would like to thank you for your continuous support to VSS. We look forward to working with you closely in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

G. Tont

(Grace TONG) for Director of Health

We build a healthy Hong Kong and aspire to be an internationally renowned public health authority

2

Annex

CME Attainment to be Considered in July 2021 Checking

A. Specialist Register

(https://www.mchk.org.hk/english/list_register/specialist_list.php)

B. List of Doctors with Valid Title of "CME-Certified"

- (1) 1 July 2018 30 June 2021
- (2) 1 January 2019 31 December 2021
- (3) 1 July 2019 30 June 2022
- (4) 1 January 2020 31 December 2022
- (5) 1 July 2020 30 June 2023
- (6) 1 January 2021 31 December 2023

(https://www.mchk.org.hk/english/cme/cme_certified_title_list.html)

C. List of Doctors Awarded with CME Certificates

- (1) 1 January 2018 31 December 2018
- (2) 1 July 2018 30 June 2019
- (3) 1 January 2019 31 December 2019
- (4) 1 July 2019 30 June 2020
- (5) 1 January 2020 31 December 2020

(https://www.mchk.org.hk/english/cme/cme_certificates_ended.html)

D. The CME Programme Administrator certify that the CME points accumulated in the immediately preceding 12 months have met the minimum requirement for the MCHK CME certification