

DHCs and DHC Expresses collaborate with private healthcare institutions in encouraging people to receive COVID-19 vaccine (with photo)

The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, visited a COVID-19 vaccination event organised by a private healthcare institution today (January 27) in Kowloon Bay. Fully funded by the Government, the District Health Centres (DHCs) and DHC Expresses had actively assisted members of the public in need to make appointments for the event.

"In response to the surging public demand for COVID-19 vaccination, the Government has set up additional service points to facilitate vaccination of members of the public. The DHCs and DHC Expresses have been promoting and taking part in anti-epidemic work at the district level. Apart from organising related education activities and outreach vaccination services, the DHCs and DHC Expresses assist those in need, especially the elderly, in making appointments for vaccination at Community Vaccination Centres, Mobile Vaccination Stations, private doctors and clinics, etc," Professor Chan said.

In the past two weeks, the DHCs and DHC Expresses assisted about 170 members of the public to make appointments for vaccination at seven vaccination sessions conducted by three private healthcare institutions under the BioNTech Vaccination Pilot Scheme. The DHCs and DHC Expresses also collaborated with medical practitioners in the community to provide nine outreach vaccination services in their core centres with around 700 participants receiving vaccination. In addition, staff of the DHCs and DHC Expresses will make calls to those who received vaccination in one or two days to check on their condition upon vaccination and assist those in need to arrange for vaccination with the second or third dose. Professor Chan expressed appreciation to the staff of the DHCs and DHC Expresses for their caring efforts.

Professor Chan once again appealed for early vaccination of all members of the public. "In the face of imminent threats of the new wave, the Government will continue to implement the most stringent anti-epidemic measures to prevent the mutant strains from spreading in the local community. At the moment, in view of the high risk in the epidemic situation brought about by the newly emerged mutant strains, vaccination is still essential to prevent severe cases and deaths from COVID-19 infection. I strongly appeal to the public, especially the elderly, to get vaccinated so as to protect oneself and others, and to fight the epidemic together," she added.

Members of the public may visit the website at www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/programme for the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccination services being provided by the Government via different

channels. As for more information on the DHCs and DHC Expresses, they can browse the website at www.dhc.gov.hk.

