Outreach COVID-19 vaccination and publicity team to hold parent-child carnival in shopping mall this Saturday

The outreach COVID-19 vaccination and publicity team will go to a shopping mall this Saturday (December 3) to encourage more members of the public to bring their children and family members to receive COVID-19 vaccination.

"Children with jabs, parents with ease" parent-child carnival will be held at the Atrium at Level 1 of D·PARK in Tsuen Wan from 11am to 4.30pm on Saturday. Families are welcome. There will be COVID-19 vaccination-themed game booths designed by teachers, students and parents from a number of kindergartens. Members of the public are welcome to join with their children so as to enhance their understanding of the importance of COVID-19 vaccination. A sharing session on COVID-19 vaccination by a paediatrician and artists and a singing performance of a song on vaccination "Let's get a jab" will be held at 3.30pm.

A mobile vaccination station will be set up at the venue and operate from 11am to 4pm. It is the first time for provision of five kinds of COVID-19 vaccine at one venue for members of the public of different ages to receive on site.

The five kinds of vaccine are the BioNTech ancestral strain vaccine (for persons aged 12 or above), the Sinvoac vaccine (for persons aged 6 months or above), the paediatric formulation of the BioNTech vaccine (for children aged 5 to 11), the toddler formulation of the BioNTech vaccine (for children aged between 6 months and 4 years) and the BioNTech bivalent vaccine (as a booster for persons receiving their fourth dose). For details of different kinds of the vaccine, please visit the website of the Department of Health.

Apart from registration for vaccination on the spot, members of the public may call the hotline at 4657 8365 (from 9am to 6pm) to make appointment for vaccination from today.

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mrs Ingrid Yeung, said, "Following the launch of the vaccination service for the BioNTech bivalent vaccine, members of the public will have more vaccination options and that parents can choose between the Sinovac vaccine and the toddler formulation of the BioNTech vaccine for their young children. So far only some 20 per cent of children aged below 3 have got vaccinated. We hope that more parents could understand the importance and urgency of COVID-19 vaccination through activities such as the parent-child carnival and workshops, and consider carefully the health risks faced by their children without protection conferred by the vaccine and the effects brought by serious illness from COVID-19 infection or the after-effects of 'post COVID-19 condition' on them."

Since September, the Government has rolled out a series of promotion and education activities. Apart from the online programmes co-produced with a parenting website, parent-child workshops had also been held at different kindergartens to let parents and children learn about COVID-19 vaccination while having fun from workshops and animations etc. as guided by instructors.

The designated website for the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme (<u>www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/programme</u>) provides the latest information including details on vaccination venues, reservations and enquiry hotlines.