

## Outreach service for COVID-19 vaccinations in full swing (with photos)

The Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr Patrick Nip, visited AXA Hong Kong and Macau (AXA) today (July 28). During the visit, he and the Chief Executive Officer of AXA, Ms Sally Wan, jointly viewed the administering of a COVID-19 vaccine to staff members and agents of the enterprise as arranged by the Government's outreach vaccination service. About 360 people will receive a Sinovac or BioNTech vaccination in a two-day outreach vaccination service.

"We greatly welcome enterprises to join hands with the Government in promoting the 'Early Vaccination for All' campaign and encourage their employees to support the Vaccination Programme, thereby protecting the health of the employees and their colleagues and clients. I hope that people who get vaccinated will also encourage their families and friends to receive vaccinations so that we can work together to build an immune barrier in Hong Kong," Mr Nip said.

As the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is already offering more quotas for the public to make bookings, and same-day tickets for vaccinations will also be distributed to elderly persons aged 70 or above starting tomorrow (July 29), Mr Nip called on members of the public to get vaccinated as early as possible. "The mutant strains of the COVID-19 virus circulating globally have high transmissibility. Although they are mainly found in imported cases, should they enter the community and spread widely, the elderly population with its weakened immunity and low vaccination rate will be the first to bear the brunt of being infected. Elderly persons aged 70 or above can collect a same-day ticket in person. They can also authorise their family members or carers to collect on their behalf, provided that the authorised person can present a copy of the authoriser's Hong Kong identity card for registration. As same-day tickets will be distributed daily, it is not necessary for the elderly to queue up at a Community Vaccination Centre (CVC) too early for a ticket. We hope that this arrangement will provide the elderly with an additional option to receive vaccinations and prevent infection."

There has been enthusiastic support for the outreach vaccination programme since it was launched by the Civil Service Bureau. The bureau has provided the outreach vaccination service to the Hong Kong Sports Institute, global professional services enterprises, property developers, financial institutions, the construction industry, public utilities, a property management company, universities, a theme park and a district organisation.

Mr Nip expressed his gratitude to the medical team and administrative support staff of the CVC at Tin Fai Road Sports Centre for providing the outreach service today.

