

Persons aged 12 to 15 can make reservations to receive BioNTech vaccine from tomorrow

The Government announced today (June 10) the expansion of the COVID-19 Vaccination Programme by lowering the minimum age for receiving the BioNTech vaccine from 16 to 12.

Starting from 9am tomorrow (June 11), persons aged 12 to 15 can make reservations through the online booking system on the designated website of the Vaccination Programme (www.covidvaccine.gov.hk) for receiving BioNTech vaccination at 24 Community Vaccination Centres (CVCs) across the territory commencing next Monday (June 14).

The Government reminded youths and their parents that, like persons aged 16 and 17, those aged 12 to 15 are required to bring along a consent form signed by their parents for getting their vaccinations. The consent form can be downloaded from the designated website.

The Government attaches great importance to the vaccination of teenagers and students. In addition to their making own appointments for vaccination, the Government will provide them with special channels to get vaccinated, including providing special appointments at CVCs and transport from and to schools, as well as outreach vaccination at schools. The Education Bureau will write to schools to inform them of the details and arrangements.

"These measures will greatly assist schools, teachers and parents. We hope they will make arrangements for their students or children to get vaccinated as soon as possible," a Government spokesman said.

The minimum age for receiving the Sinovac vaccine remains at 18. Persons aged 18 or above can make reservations through the online booking system for receiving the vaccine at the five relevant CVCs or 21 general out-patient clinics of the Hospital Authority. They can also make appointments for vaccination with private doctors or clinics participating in the programme.

"We have to put in place an immune barrier in Hong Kong as soon as possible and the next three months will be critical. We must act fast to receive the first vaccine dose by the end of August to protect ourselves, our families and friends. Let's pitch in for the 'Early Vaccination for All' campaign together," the spokesman added.

Members of the public can search for information about all vaccination venues through the GeoInfo Map (www.map.gov.hk/gm/map/s/m/communityvaccinationservicesofcovid) and the Interactive Map Dashboard of COVID-19 (chp-dashboard.geodata.gov.hk/covid-19/en.html) on the designated website.