Factsheet on COVID-19 Vaccination
For Persons with Prior COVID-19 Infection

(For latest information, please visit the website: https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/faq)

1. I am unvaccinated and recovered from COVID-19 infection. Which type of COVID-19 vaccine should I receive and what is the dosing schedule?

According to the latest Consensus Interim Recommendation of the Joint Scientific Committees joined by the Chief Executive’s expert advisory panel (JSC-EAP), vaccination arrangement for unvaccinated recovered persons takes into consideration the following factors: age group, whether one belongs to specific groups of immunocompromised persons, whether one resides in Residential Care Homes and which brand of COVID-19 vaccine one intends to receive. For detailed information on number of doses required and the respective intervals, please refer to "Figure 1" for related description or the following website: https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/recovered_ENG.pdf.

2. I got COVID-19 infection more than 14 days after COVID-19 vaccination. Do I need to re-take the vaccine and what is the dosing schedule?

For detailed information on number of doses required and the respective intervals, please refer to "Figure 2" for related description or the following website: https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/recovered_2_ENG.pdf. The vaccination record would show the vaccine doses received before and after COVID-19 infection.

3. I got COVID-19 infection less than 14 days after COVID-19 vaccination. Do I need to re-take the vaccine again and what is the dosing schedule?

In general, persons who have recovered from COVID-19 infection requires one less dose than the general public. In order to maximize the vaccines’ effectiveness and enhance the immune response after vaccination, a minimum interval of 14 days between a dose and a COVID-19 infection episode is required. If an individual acquired COVID-19 infection and was tested positive for the first time within 14 days after receiving vaccination, they should not take one less dose of COVID-19 vaccine despite this infection episode. The vaccination record would still show the vaccine doses received before and after COVID-19 infection.

For example, immunocompetent adults aged 18 to 49 years who were infected with COVID-19 within 14 days after their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine should follow the arrangement in "Figure 1" instead (i.e. similar to unvaccinated persons) to receive “the next dose” at least 30 days after recovery and “another dose” at least 90 days after “the next dose”. These two doses will be shown in the vaccination record as the second and
third doses respectively. If they are at higher risk of COVID-19 exposure* or have personal needs^, they may choose to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 180 days from the previous dose after considering the individual risk and benefit. This dose will be shown in the vaccination record as the fourth dose.

For another example, immunocompetent adults aged 18 to 49 years who were infected with COVID-19 within 14 days after their second dose of COVID-19 vaccine should follow the arrangement in "Figure 2" instead (i.e. similar to persons vaccinated with one dose) to receive one more dose of vaccine at least 90 days after recovery. This dose will be shown in the vaccination record as the third dose. If they are at higher risk of COVID-19 exposure* or have personal needs^, they may choose to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 180 days from the previous dose after considering the individual risk and benefit. This dose will be shown in the vaccination record as the fourth dose.

Immunocompetent adults aged 18 to 49 years who were infected with COVID-19 within 14 days after their third dose of COVID-19 vaccine are not yet recommended to receive an additional dose after recovery. If they are at higher risk of COVID-19 exposure* or have personal needs^, they may choose to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at least 180 days after recovery after considering the individual risk and benefit. This dose will be shown in the vaccination record as the fourth dose.

* Higher risk of COVID-19 exposure includes:
- Workers in healthcare settings, residential care homes for the elderly or residential care homes for persons with disabilities;
- Workers at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational setting (personnel participating in anti-epidemic related work; personnel providing cross-boundary transportation or working at control points and ports)

^ Personal needs: e.g. to study abroad or to fulfil a requirement for overseas travel, etc.

4. I am a person with immunocompromised conditions and recovered from COVID-19 infection. How many doses of COVID-19 vaccine should I receive and what is the dosing schedule?

For detailed information on number of doses required and the respective intervals, please refer to "Figure 3" for related description or the following website: https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/pdf/recovered_3_ENG.pdf. The vaccination record would show the vaccine doses received before and after COVID-19 infection.

5. I have recovered from COVID-19 infection. Where should I receive my COVID-19 vaccine? Do I need to bring any documentary proof of my recovery status? Do I need to make online bookings?

Currently, the online booking system arranges vaccination appointments according to the recommended interval for uninfected persons. If COVID-19 recovered persons cannot book their vaccination appointment at the recommended interval in the online booking system, they can directly attend any Community Vaccination Centres for vaccination.
For the details of the vaccination venues, please visit the website: https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/programme.

To ensure that the health care professionals understand your situation, persons with prior COVID-19 infection are recommended to bring the relevant documentary proof for assessment by the on-site healthcare professionals. In general, supporting documents such as a discharge letter, SMS/electronic/paper record of positive nucleic acid test result issued by the Government or private laboratories recognised under the Laboratory Recognition Scheme of the Department of Health (DH), SMS/electronic record of completed declaration on DH's "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test", isolation order/record of persons tested positive for COVID-19 issued by the DH, and other recovery records issued by the Government or the Hospital Authority, etc., indicating the client’s prior COVID-19 infection (in English/Chinese, with the client’s identity particulars matched) would be acceptable. Photograph showing a positive rapid antigen test result alone cannot serve as a valid recovery record. The person concerned should report the test result to the DH through the "Declaration System for individuals tested positive for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen Test". Those infected abroad could provide a positive nucleic acid test result issued by a local institution, or other official letter or email notification as proof.

6. **I have recovered from COVID-19 infection, having been tested positive by Rapid Antigen Test and never been admitted to hospital. Which day is my date of recovery?**

The date of recovery should be 14 days after the first documented positive test date.

7. **I have recovered from COVID-19 infection. How can I meet the requirements of the "Vaccine Pass"?**

For the details of the "Vaccine Pass", please visit the website: https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/vaccine-pass.html

8. **I am not sure if I had previous COVID-19 infection. Should I receive the vaccine?**

If you are not sure if you had previous COVID-19 infection, you should receive the vaccine as if you have not been infected. COVID-19 vaccine is safe in persons with previous COVID-19 infection. Prior COVID-19 screening before administration of COVID-19 vaccine is neither needed nor recommended.

9. **If I have personal reasons (e.g. travel abroad), can I receive the COVID-19 vaccine at a shorter interval?**

Recovered persons can receive the next dose of COVID-19 vaccine for personal reasons (e.g. study abroad or fulfill requirements for overseas travel, etc.) at a shorter interval of no less than 28 days after recovery (Exception: for the immunocompetent recovered persons aged 18 to 49 years old who had received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine more than 14 days before their COVID-19 infection, they can receive the next dose of vaccine no less than 180 days after recovery for personal reasons).
10. Can I get another brand of COVID-19 vaccine after recovery to enhance protection?

If recovered persons have been vaccinated before infection and further dose(s) is required after recovery, they can choose to receive the same brand or another brand of COVID-19 vaccine to enhance protection.
I got COVID-19 and have not received© COVID-19 vaccine before, should I still receive the vaccine?

Vaccination schedule for persons recovered from a COVID-19 infection who have not received COVID-19 vaccine before is given in the table below. They may choose to receive BioNTech© or Sinovac© as any dose of vaccine after recovery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st dose after recovery</th>
<th>Interval between recovery© to 1st dose after recovery</th>
<th>Interval between 1st and 2nd dose after recovery</th>
<th>Interval between 2nd and 3rd dose after recovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose to receive Comirnaty (BioNTech)© as 1st dose</td>
<td>30 days ©</td>
<td>Aged 18 years or above: 90 days</td>
<td>Aged 50 years or above: 90 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose to receive CoronaVac (Sinovac)© as 1st dose</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aged 5 to 17 years©: 150 days</td>
<td>Aged 50 years or above: At least 30 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aged 6 months to 49 years: 90 days</td>
<td>Aged 18-49 years with higher risk or personal need may choose to receive: 180 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© Also applicable to persons whose first dose was received within 14 days before infection
© Sinovac vaccine for 6 months or above and BioNTech vaccine for 5 years or above
© Recovery is 14 days after the date of first documented positive test (nucleic acid test or rapid antigen test). Discharge letter is accepted as record of infection or recovery for arrangement of vaccination and transitional arrangement of Vaccine Pass
© Recovered persons may receive their next dose of COVID-19 vaccine for personal reasons (e.g. to study abroad or to fulfil a requirement for overseas travel) at a shorter interval of no less than 28 days after recovery
© For 5 to 17 years old, a second dose after recovery of BioNTech (or Sinovac) vaccine 150 days after the first dose after recovery is allowed to cater for personal need (e.g. studying overseas) if informed consent is obtained

Those who have received COVID-19 vaccines before infection should follow their vaccination regimen
Adults living in residential care homes (RCHs) should follow the vaccination regimen for RCHs
Immunocompromised persons should follow their vaccination regimen
Persons who are unsure if they had previous COVID-19 infection may receive vaccination as if they have not been infected

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COVID-19 Vaccination for Recovered Persons series 2

I got COVID-19 and have received\textsuperscript{*} COVID-19 vaccine before, should I still receive the vaccine?

Vaccination schedule for persons recovered from a COVID-19 infection who have received COVID-19 vaccine before is given in the table below. They may choose to receive BioNTech\textsuperscript{*} or Sinovac\textsuperscript{*} as any dose of vaccine after recovery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccination before infection\textsuperscript{*}</th>
<th>Interval between recovery\textsuperscript{a} to 1\textsuperscript{st} dose after recovery</th>
<th>Interval between 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} dose after recovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have received one dose of vaccine before infection (Comirnaty (BioNTech) or CoronaVac (Sinovac))</td>
<td>Aged 18 years or above: 90 days Aged 5-17 years: 150 days\textsuperscript{a} (have received 1 dose of BioNTech before infection) Aged 6 months-17 years: 90 days (have received 1 dose of Sinovac before infection)</td>
<td>Aged 50 years or above: 90 days Aged 18-49 years with higher risk or personal need may choose to receive\textsuperscript{a}: 180 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have received two doses of vaccine before infection (BioNTech or Sinovac)</td>
<td>Aged 50 years or above: 90 days Aged 18-49 years with higher risk or personal need may choose to receive\textsuperscript{b}: 180 days</td>
<td>No need for further doses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have received three or more doses of vaccine before infection (BioNTech or Sinovac)</td>
<td></td>
<td>No need for further doses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{*} Person whose first dose was received within 14 days before infection should receive vaccine as if they have not been vaccinated. Person whose second dose was received within 14 days before infection should receive vaccine as if they have received one dose of vaccine before infection. Person whose third dose was received within 14 days before infection should receive vaccine as if they have received two doses of vaccine before infection.

\textsuperscript{a} Sinovac vaccine for 6 months or above and BioNTech vaccine for 5 years or above.

\textsuperscript{b} Recovery is 14 days after the date of first documented positive test (nucleic acid test or rapid antigen test). Discharge letter is accepted as record of infection or recovery for arrangement of vaccination and transitional arrangement of Vaccine Pass.

\textsuperscript{c} Recovered persons may receive their next dose of COVID-19 vaccine for personal reasons (e.g. to study abroad or to fulfill a requirement for overseas travel) at a shorter interval of no less than 28 days after recovery (except\textsuperscript{d}).

\textsuperscript{d} For 5-17 years old who have received 1 dose of BioNTech before infection, another dose of BioNTech (or Sinovac) vaccine is allowed 150 days after recovery to cater for personal need (e.g. studying overseas) if informed consent is obtained.

Vaccination record will include the accumulated vaccination information prior to infection and after recovery.

Those unvaccinated before infection should follow their vaccination regimen.

Adults living in residential care homes (RCHs) should follow the vaccination regimen for RCHs.

Immunocompromised persons should follow their vaccination regimen.

Persons who are unsure if they had previous COVID-19 infection may receive vaccination as if they have not been infected.

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**COVID-19 Vaccination for Recovered Persons series 3**

I got COVID-19 and I am an immunocompromised person, when should I receive COVID-19 vaccine?

**Immunocompromised persons** may choose Comirnaty (BioNTech)* or CoronaVac (Sinovac)* as any dose of vaccine after they recover from COVID-19 infection. Their vaccination regimen is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccination before infection</th>
<th>Interval between recovery* to 1st dose after recovery</th>
<th>Interval between 1st and 2nd dose after recovery</th>
<th>Interval between 2nd and 3rd dose after recovery</th>
<th>4th dose after recovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have not received COVID-19 vaccine before infection</td>
<td>30 days</td>
<td>30 days</td>
<td>90 days (For aged 12 years or above only)</td>
<td>No need for further dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have received one dose of vaccine before infection (BioNTech or Sinovac)</td>
<td>30 days</td>
<td>90 days (For aged 12 years or above only)</td>
<td>No need for further dose</td>
<td>No need for further dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have received two doses of vaccine before infection (BioNTech or Sinovac)</td>
<td>90 days (For aged 12 years or above only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>No need for further dose</td>
<td>No need for further dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have received three or more doses of vaccine before infection (BioNTech or Sinovac)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No need for further dose</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Sinovac vaccine for 6 months or above and BioNTech vaccine for 5 years or above
* Person whose first dose was received within 14 days before infection should receive vaccine as if they have not been vaccinated. Person whose second dose was received within 14 days before infection should receive vaccine as if they have received one dose of vaccine before infection. Person whose third dose was received within 14 days before infection should receive vaccine as if they have received two doses of vaccine before infection
* Recovery is 14 days after the date of first documented positive test (nucleic acid test or rapid antigen test). Discharge letter is accepted as record of infection or recovery for arrangement of vaccination and transitional arrangement of Vaccine Pass
* Recovered persons may receive their next dose of COVID-19 vaccine for personal reasons (e.g. to study abroad or to fulfil a requirement for overseas travel) at a shorter interval of no less than 28 days after recovery

**Immunocompromised persons who are unsure** if they had previous COVID-19 infection may receive vaccination as if they have not been infected.

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