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சுகாதார அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health

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Your No. :)

දිනය) 19.08.2021
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Date)



Provincial Directors of Health Services

Regional Directors of Health Services

Heads of Institutions

Vaccination of pregnant women against COVID 19

Recommendations were made at a special meeting of the Advisory Committee on Communicable Diseases held on 13th August 2021, on vaccinating pregnant women.

The final decisions of the Ministry of Health on vaccination of pregnant women are as follows:

- Pregnant women can be vaccinated at any time during the pregnancy, irrespective of the trimester.
- Vaccines that can be considered in vaccinating pregnant women are;
 - Sinopharm (SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine (Vero Cell), Inactivated (BBIBP-CorV),
 - AstraZeneca/Covishield ((ChAdOx1nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine-Recombinant),
 - COMIRNATY (Pfizer- Covid 19 mRNA Vaccine (Nucleoside modified)
 - Moderna mRNA-1273 COVID-19 Vaccine (nucleoside modified)
- Advise to vaccinate with 2 doses of the same vaccine keeping the recommended gap between 2 doses as per the instructions/ guidelines given by the Epidemiology Unit.
- Once the initial vaccine dose is given by one vaccine type, the follow up vaccine dose also needs to be given from the same vaccine or as per any updated instructions given by the Epidemiology Unit. Should not mix and match any of the available vaccines unless instructed.

- If another routine vaccine to protect from a different disease is to be given during the pregnancy (e.g. tetanus toxoid) the priority should be given to the COVID 19 vaccine and advised to keep a gap of two weeks with the other vaccine for a different disease/s.
 - However, if the Tetanus toxoid is already given by the time the COVID 19 Vaccine is made available, administer the COVID 19 vaccine in the first opportunity without considering the time gap since the date of administration of the tetanus toxoid, given the importance of protecting against COVID 19.

You are hereby instructed to bring the contents of this letter to the attention of all relevant officers in your province/district/institution and to facilitate the vaccination of pregnant women.


Dr Asela Gunawardena

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 4. Provincial/District Consultant Community Physicians
 5. Regional Epidemiologists
 6. MO/MCH