



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 11, 2022

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2021 - 0483-A

FOR : ALL DEPARTMENT UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM); AND BUREAU DIRECTORS; SPECIAL AND SPECIALTY HOSPITAL DIRECTORS; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS AND SANITARIA; AND OTHER CONCERNED OFFICES

SUBJECT : Amendment to Department Circular 2021-0483 entitled "Interim Operational Guidelines on the COVID-19 Vaccination of the Rest of the Pediatric Population Ages 12-17 Years Old"

The Department Circular 2021-0483 entitled "Interim Operational Guidelines on the COVID-19 Vaccination of the Rest of the Pediatric Population Ages 12-17 Years Old" is amended for clarification to avoid misinterpretation during implementation and to reflect recent issuances and policies issued by the Department of Health (DOH) relative to this undertaking. The amendments are as follows:

A. Section VI. Implementing Guidelines A. Eligible Population:

Addition
2. Suppose the vaccine recipient turns from 11 to 12 years of age in between the first and second doses. In that case, the second dose to be administered shall be the age-appropriate COVID-19 vaccine formulation with approved Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for individuals 12 years of age and older.

B. Section VI. Implementing Guidelines B. Implementation of Vaccination Roll-out:

From	To
3. The vaccination of the ROPP ages 12-17 years old shall be implemented in regular vaccination sites such as fixed vaccination sites, temporary posts, mobile vaccination posts	3. The vaccination of the ROPP ages 12-17 years old shall be implemented in regular vaccination sites such as fixed vaccination sites, temporary posts, mobile vaccination posts (as part of the A2 and A3 + Family strategy -"Pamilyang Bakunado, Protektado" provided that these vaccination sites

(as part of the A2 and A3 + Family strategy -"Pamilyang Bakunado, Protektado")	fulfilled the provisions as stipulated in DOH DM No. 2021-0016, otherwise known as, "Interim Guidelines on the Identification and Utilization of COVID-19 Vaccination Sites."
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C. Section VI. Implementing Guidelines E. Requirements for Vaccination 1. Document/s to prove filiation: a. In case the minor is accompanied by his/her parent:

From	To
<p>iii. In case the parent is residing abroad or cannot accompany their own children on the day of the scheduled vaccination, the accompanying adult may present a Special Power of Attorney executed by either parent of the minor designating the minor's companion to assist in the vaccination process. (If executed abroad, the SPA must be apostilled, if applicable, or authenticated by the Philippine Embassy/Consulate).</p>	<p>iii. In case the parent is residing abroad or cannot accompany their own children on the day of the scheduled vaccination, the accompanying adult may present a Special Power of Attorney executed by either parent of the minor designating the minor's companion to assist in the vaccination process. (If executed abroad, the SPA must be apostilled, if applicable, or authenticated by the Philippine Embassy/Consulate). The following documents are alternative documents to the SPA as proof of the filiation of the minor and accompanying guardian:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Notarized Authorization Letter; ● Written Affidavit of the parent/guardian notarized by a Notary Public or as attested by a public official or by a person of authority (e.g. Barangay Officials) coupled with the presentation of a valid government ID; or ● Barangay Certification issued by the Barangay Captain after the personal appearance of the parent or guardian, the latter shall be accompanied by one witness who personally knows the parent or guardian and who can attest that the parent/guardian is indeed the parent/guardian of the child.

D. Section VI. Implementing Guidelines G.Vaccination Process 2. Health Education and Informed Consent/Assent Area:

From	To
<p>iv. In case of foundlings, abandoned, neglected or abused children and other children similarly situated, parental authority shall be entrusted in summary judicial proceedings to heads of children’s homes, orphanages and similar institutions duly accredited by the DSWD or its city/municipal counterparts.</p> <p>v. In case the parent/guardian refuses to give consent to the vaccination despite the desire and willingness of the minor child to have himself/herself vaccinated, or there are no persons that may legally exercise parental authority over the child, the State may act as parens patriae and give the necessary consent. Therefore, the proper officer representing the State as parens patriae may sign the consent form. In this regard, the DSWD or its city/municipal counterparts shall serve as the proper office who shall represent the State.</p>	<p>iv. In case of foundlings, abandoned, neglected or abused children and other children similarly situated, parental authority shall be entrusted in summary judicial proceedings to heads of children’s homes, orphanages and similar institutions duly accredited by the DSWD or its city/municipal counterparts. All applicable laws, rules, proceedings, and issuances, such as but not limited to the ones issued by the DSWD, shall be observed under this provision.</p> <p>Rescinded.</p>

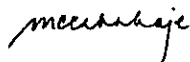
E. Section VI. Implementing Guidelines I: Demand Generation and Communications:

From	To
<p>1. LVOCs shall utilize the LGU Demand Generation playbook updated for pediatric COVID-19 vaccination to update their microplans. LVOCs shall provide bimonthly</p>	<p>1. LVOCs shall utilize print, broadcast, and digital collateral to ensure access of information, especially for vulnerable groups. Both online and non-online platforms should be maximized to disseminate the materials (https://bit.ly/ResbakunaKids 2022) for</p>

<p>updates to CHDs on their implementation, including social listening data as prescribed in the playbook.</p> <p>2. CHDs shall provide bimonthly updates to Task Group Demand Generation and Communications (TG DGC) on the progress of activities based on microplans</p> <p>3. CHDs shall ensure feedback mechanisms and social listening by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting frequently asked questions, misinformation, and rumors weekly to the TG DGC Disseminating surveys and ensuring achievement of minimum respondents Promoting the use of DOH's Katuwang na Impormasyon para sa Responsableng Aksyon (KIRA) chatbot 	<p>pediatric vaccination to children, parents, and healthcare worker teams.</p> <p>2. CHDs shall provide bimonthly updates to Task Group Demand Generation and Communications (TG DGC) on the progress of activities based on microplans</p> <p>3. CHDs shall ensure feedback mechanisms and social listening by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting frequently asked questions, misinformation, and rumors weekly to the TG DGC Promoting the use of DOH's Katuwang na Impormasyon para sa Responsableng Aksyon (KIRA) chatbot (https://m.me/OfficialDOHgov) to ask questions (Magtanong kay KIRA) and verify validity of information; and to report both positive and negative feedback about their vaccination experience (Magreport kay KIRA)
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All other provisions of Department Circular 2021-0483 dated October 28, 2021 not affected by this amendment shall remain valid and in effect.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:



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