



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

1 December 2021

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2021 - 0492 - A

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, SERVICES AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT; MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS AND NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA AND INSTITUTES; PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS; AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Amendment to Department Memorandum No. 2021-0492: Interim Guidelines on the Administration and Management of COVID-19 Vaccine Booster/Additional Doses to Priority Group A2: Senior Citizens ages 60 years old and above and Priority Group A3: Adults with Comorbidities to Include Provision of Booster/Additional Doses for All Individuals 18 Years Old and Above

On November 29, 2021, the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an amendment on the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for administration of homologous and heterologous additional doses to eligible fully vaccinated individuals for the National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Program.

In this light, Department Memorandum (DM) No. 2021-0492 dated 19 November 2021 entitled “Interim Guidelines on the Administration and Management of COVID-19 Vaccine Booster/Additional Doses to Priority Group A2: Senior Citizens ages 60 years old and above and Priority Group A3: Adults with Comorbidities” Section V.A. Eligible Groups is hereby amended to expand the implementation of additional doses to all fully vaccinated adults aged 18 years and above.

The decision to administer the additional/booster dose to all individuals 18 years old and above shall be based on the risk-benefit assessment of receiving another COVID-19 vaccine dose. Fully vaccinated adults shall receive a single dose of COVID-19 vaccine of either a homologous or a heterologous booster/additional dose, at least six (6) months after completion of the primary dose series of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, Sinovac, Gamaleya, and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines; and at least three (3) months after completion of the primary dose series of Ad26.COV2.s (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine.

Further, the National Vaccination Operations Center (NVOC) shall issue operational guidelines on the implementation of this policy. All vaccination sites are reminded to prioritize

the allocation and provision of doses for completion of primary series, and then those most at-risk populations for severe disease and deaths for booster/additional doses:

1. Primary vaccines to unvaccinated individuals
2. Primary vaccines to incompletely vaccinated individuals
3. Booster doses to vaccinated Priority Group A1 or Frontline workers in health facilities
4. Booster/additional doses to Priority Group A2 or Senior Citizens aged 60 years old and above and immunocompromised persons under Priority Group A3
5. Booster doses to vaccinated adults 18 years old and above not included in the above mentioned categories, based on benefits and risks

For strict compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


MARIA ROSARIO S. VERGEIRE, MD, MPH, CESO II
Undersecretary of Health
Public Health Services Team