



**2023/24**

# **Vaccination Subsidy Scheme**

**Overview of  
Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS) 2023/24**

**July 2023**

**(Updated on 22 November 2023)**

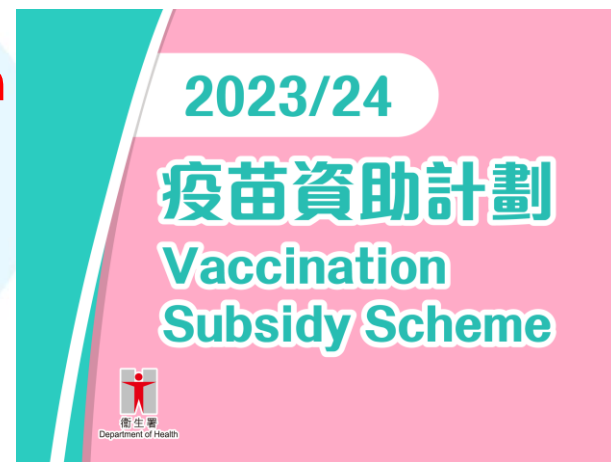


**衛生署**  
Department of Health

# Overview of Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS) 2023/24

## Outline

1. Vaccination Statistics in 2022/23
2. VSS arrangement in 2023/24 (updated on 22 November 2023)
3. Roles and Responsibility of Enrolled Doctors
4. Vaccine Storage and Cold Chain
5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills
6. After Vaccination
7. More Information



# 1. 2022/23 Vaccination Statistics

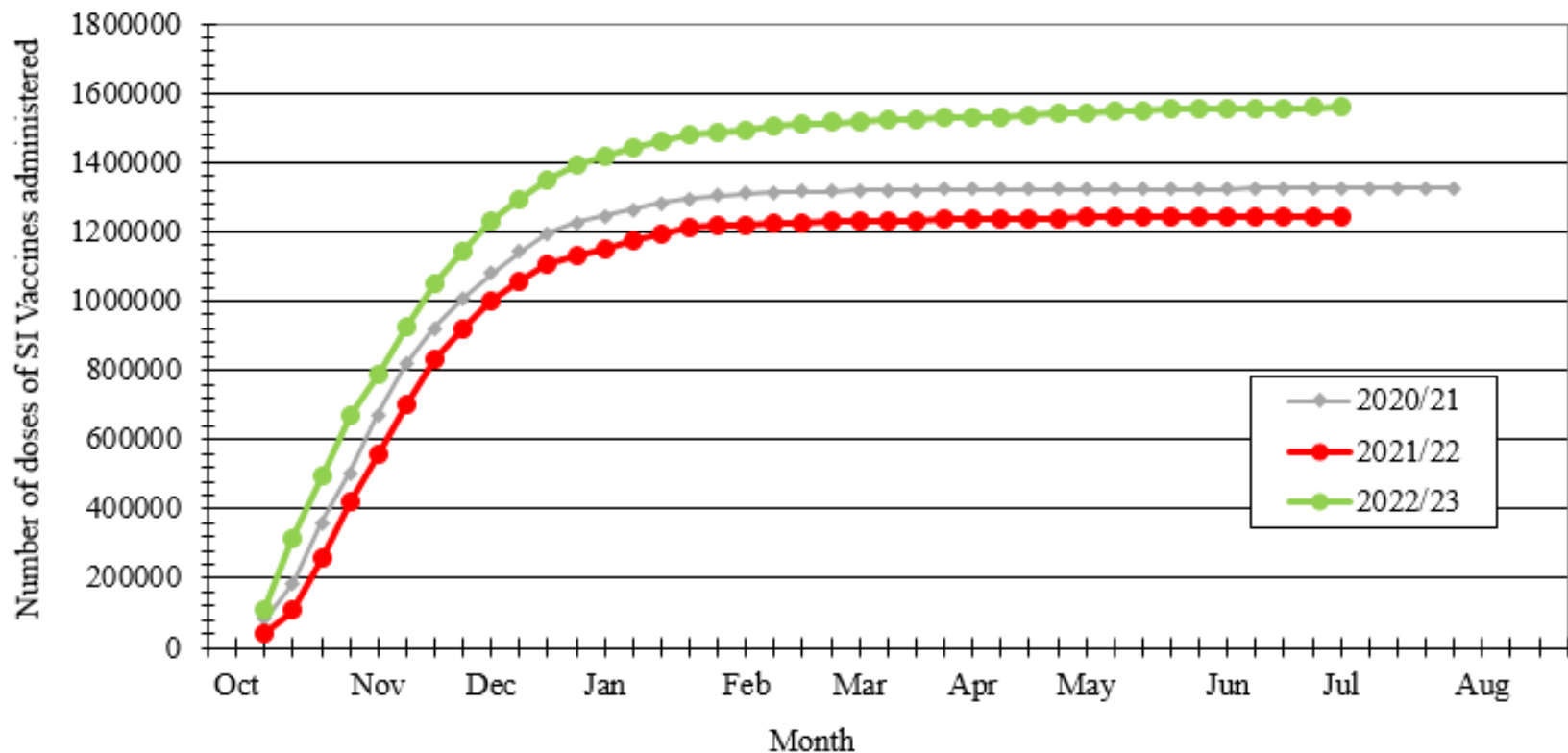
Number of doses of Seasonal Influenza Vaccination (SIV) administered to target groups of various vaccination programmes

	Government Vaccination Programme (GVP)	Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS)	School Outreach Vaccination (Free of charge)	Total number of doses administered
2022/23 (as at 2.7.2023)	608 799	<u>673 724</u>	275 700	<b>1 558 223</b>
2021/22 (same period last year)	474 089	<u>483 756</u>	<b>287 350</b>	<b>1 245 195</b>
Difference in %	+28.4%	<u>+39.3%</u>	-4.1%	<b>+25.1%</b>

(as at 2 July 2023)

# 1. 2022/23 Vaccination Statistics

Cumulative Weekly Statistics on Seasonal Influenza Vaccine administered under the GVP, VSS and School Programme for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 (as at 2 Jul 2023 day end)



# 1. 2022/23 Vaccination Statistics

## SIV coverage rate (As at 2 July 2023 in all vaccination programmes)

Age group	Coverage in 2020/21	Coverage in 2021/22	Coverage in 2022/23
65 years or above	44.7%	40.4%	48.2%
50 to 64 years	12.3%	11.2%	17.8%
6 months to less than 12 years	50.3%	53.3%	50.8%

\* New eligible group: 12 to <18 years old coverage in 2022/23 is 19.3%.

## 23vPPV or PCV13 statistics under GVP and VSS (As at 26 Feb 2023)

Cumulative % of surviving elderly, among elderly population, who had received 23vPPV or PCV13 since 2009

**42.3%**

## 2. VSS arrangement in 2023/24 – SIV

<u>Eligible groups</u>	Checking eligibility (HK residents)
Persons aged 50 to 64 years	in that year
Elderly (aged 65 or above)	in that year
Children aged 6 months to less than 18 years (or secondary school students)	Photocopy of student handbook or student card (for secondary school students aged 18 or above)
Pregnant Women	Confirmed by the enrolled doctor
Persons with intellectual disability	<p>One of the following document proof:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registration Card for People with Disability (with indication of intellectual disability*)</li> <li>- Medical Certificate</li> <li>- Certificate issued from designated PID institutions</li> </ul> <p>*The term "mentally handicap" is also accepted</p>
- Persons receiving disability allowance*	- *Approval letter for Disability Allowance issued by Social Welfare Department (SWD)
- Recipients of standard rate of “100% disabled” or “requiring constant attendance” under Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme of SWD ^	- ^ “Certificate of CSSA Recipients (for Medical Waivers)” issued before 15 Dec 2018; or the new Annex page of “Notification of Successful Application” / “Notification of Revision of Assistance” <b>AND</b> sign a self-declaration form provided at VSS clinics

## 2. VSS arrangement in 2023/24 – SIV

### VSS Clinics or VSS Outreach Vaccination

- Subsidy level: **HK\$260** each dose
- Enrolled doctors may charge extra fee

### VSS School Outreach (Extra charge allowed)

- Subsidy level: **HK\$260** each dose
- Eligible: **School children** (regardless of HK resident status) of participating secondary schools, primary schools, kindergartens, kindergarten-cum-child care centres, child care centres
- **School staff/ family members** of students can also join the activity, those ineligible under VSS can be vaccinated at their own costs

## 2. VSS arrangement in 2023/24 – Pneumococcal Vaccination

### Subsidy level

- 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (23vPPV) - **HK\$400** per dose
- 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV13) - **HK\$800** per dose
- **15-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV15) - HK\$800 per dose**
- Enrolled doctors may charge extra fee

**Remark:** With effect on 30 Nov 2023, the Government will provide subsidy to eligible elderly receiving PCV15 under VSS.

### Type of pneumococcal vaccine to provide

	<b>Has not</b> received any pneumococcal vaccination	Has received <b>23vPPV</b>	Has received <b>PCV13/PCV15</b>	Has received both <b>PCV13/PCV15 and 23vPPV</b>
<b><u>Without</u></b> high-risk conditions	One dose 23vPPV	Not needed	Not needed	Not needed
<b><u>With</u></b> high-risk conditions	One dose PCV13 / <b>PCV15</b>  One dose 23vPPV one year after	One dose PCV13 / <b>PCV15</b> (one year after the previous 23vPPV)	One dose 23vPPV (one year after the previous PCV13 / <b>PCV15</b> )	



## 2. VSS arrangement in 2023/24 – Pneumococcal Vaccination

### List of high-risk conditions of severe invasive pneumococcal diseases

- History of invasive pneumococcal disease;
- Immunocompromised states:
  - ◆ Asplenia, HIV /AIDS , primary immunodeficiency
  - ◆ Immunodeficiencies related to malignancies and transplantation
  - ◆ Immunodeficiencies related to use of immunosuppressive drugs / systemic steroid
- Chronic disease
  - ◆ Chronic cardiac, pulmonary, liver or renal disease
  - ◆ Diabetes mellitus or Cerebrospinal fluid leakage
- With cochlear implants

*Under VSS, elderly with chronic metabolic diseases, obesity (BMI 30 or above), chronic neurological conditions that can compromise respiratory functions, the handling of respiratory secretions, increase the risk for aspiration or those who lack the ability to take care of themselves are eligible for subsidised pneumococcal vaccination*

# 3. Roles and Responsibility of Enrolled Doctors

## Enroll (or continue enroll) in VSS

- All doctors under VSS, i.e. new enrollees and doctors already enrolled, are required to be **listed on Primary Care Directory (PCD)** before he/ she is eligible to enroll or to continue to participate in VSS.
- All enrolled doctors have to use **Purpose-built vaccine refrigerators (PBVR)** for vaccine storage starting from 2023/24 season.

## Role and responsibility

- **Train and supervise** the staff providing the vaccination service
- **Retain personal responsibility** for treatment of patients/ vaccine recipients
- VSS doctors are overall responsible to ensure **safety and quality** of vaccination service

## 3. Roles and Responsibility of Enrolled Doctors

### Preparation of vaccines and equipment

- Place order for vaccines **early, with pharmaceutical manufacturer/supplier** (SIV/ 23vPPV, PCV13/PCV15)
- Proper **vaccine storage** and maintain cold chain
- **Screen for contraindication** and check vaccination history
- Perform health assessment to confirm high-risk condition for **PCV13/PCV15** vaccination
- **VSS Doctors' Guides**
  - (SIV/ 23vPPV, PCV13/PCV15) (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html> )
- **Recommendation from Scientific Committee** on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/static/24008.html> )

# 4. Vaccine storage and cold chain

## Prevent cold chain breakage

- The optimal cold chain temperature for the majority of commonly recommended vaccines is **+2°C to +8°C**.
- **All enrolled doctors have to use PBVR for vaccine storage by 2023/24.**
- The PBVR should have the following features:
  - Microprocessor-based temperature control system to achieve narrow tolerances within internal temperatures
  - Maintain temperature within +2°C to +8°C
  - Forced air circulation system to maintain uniform temperature and fast temperature recovery
  - High/ Low temperature alarms
  - Digital temperature display
  - Others features (optional): a display with current, maximum and minimum temperature, built-in datalogger



Figure 1. PBVR are available in different sizes

Details are in the VSS Doctors' Guide (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>)

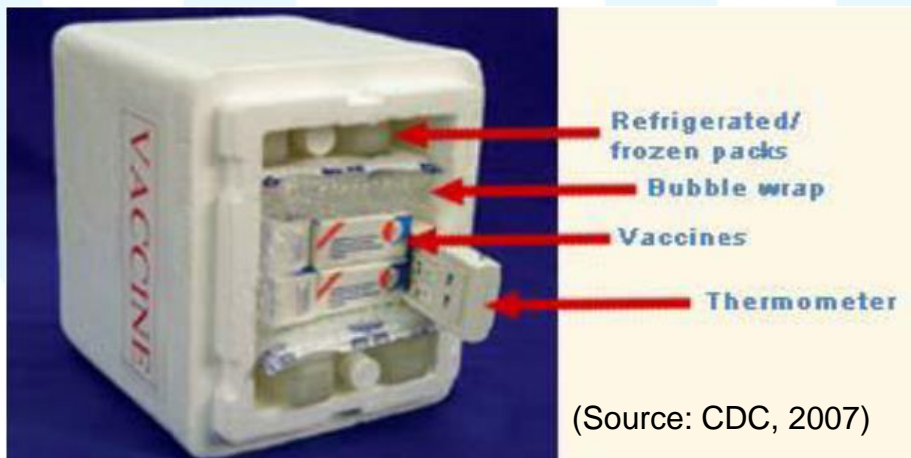
## 4. Vaccine storage and cold chain

### Use of cold boxes at non-clinic setting

- Sufficient ice packs to **meet the needs** of vaccination activity and transport
- Adequate insulating materials between ice packs and vaccines to **prevent freezing of vaccines**
- **Monitor vaccine temperature** during transport to and from the venue

Details are in the VSS Doctors' Guide (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>)

### Packing Cold Box



### Example of maximum-minimum thermometer (reference only)



## 4. Vaccine storage and cold chain

### Actions to take in case vaccines are exposed to out-of-range temperatures

- Label **“Do Not Use”** on them and **store properly in cold chain**
- **Consult vaccine manufacturer** whether the vaccines are still effective / usable
- Inform Programme Management and Vaccination Division (PMVD) if
  - ◆ **VSS recipients are involved, and**
  - ◆ Manufacturer replied that the affected vaccines are not effective / usable
- **Follow up with the recipients** administered with the vaccines and assess the need for re-vaccination

Details are in the VSS Doctors' Guide (<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>)



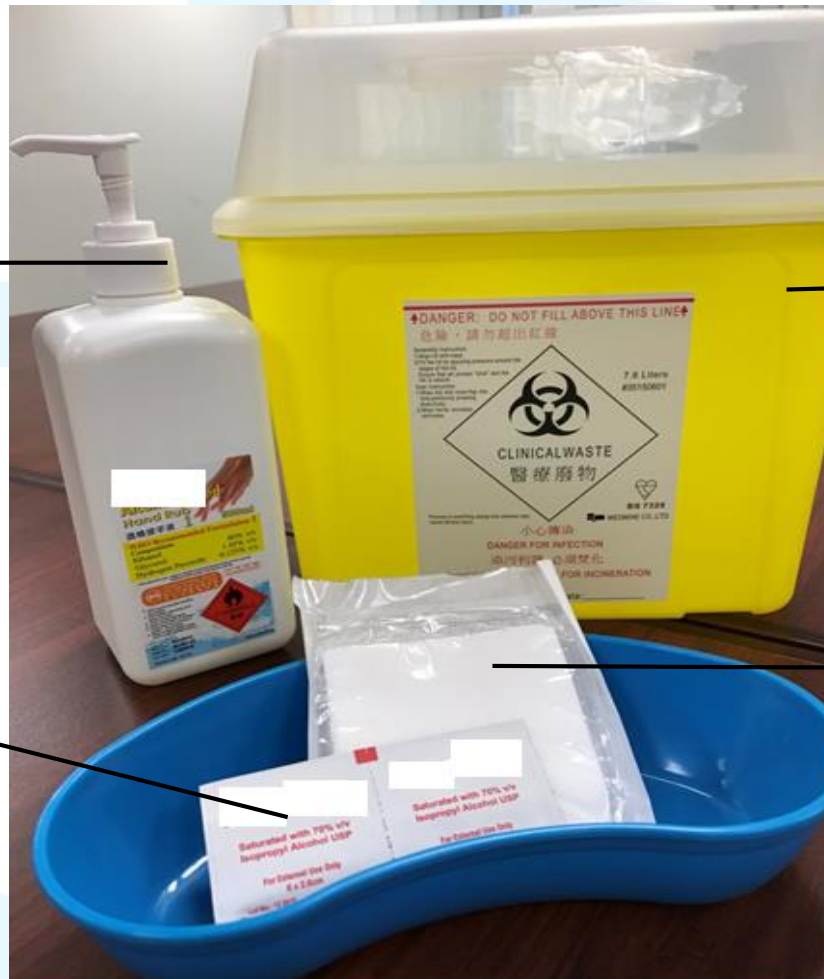
# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

## Vaccination equipment/ consumables

- **Ensure they are not expired**

70-80 %  
Alcohol-  
based  
Handrub

Alcohol  
Preps



Sharps  
Box

Dry  
clean  
Gauze

# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

## Prepare for emergency situations

- Qualified personnel to standby to provide **timely intervention**
- Ensure all emergency **equipment** (e.g. Bag Valve Mask, BP monitor) is **sufficient and age-appropriate**, and emergency **drugs** (e.g. adrenaline auto injector (3x) or adrenaline ampoule (3x) + **1 ml Syringe** (3x) ) are **not expired**
- Keep written protocol and training materials for reference



**Written protocol for  
emergency management**



# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills



Centre for Health Protection  
Department of Health  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Enter search keyword(s)

हिन्दी (Hindi) | नेपाली (Nepali) | اردو (Urdu) | ไทย (Thai) | Bahasa Indonesia | Tagalog |

Hot searches: Flu Vaccine, COVID-19, Dengue Fever, Mental Health, Cholesterol

About

Health Topics

Recommendations

Resources

Statistics

Media Room

Others

## 2022/23 Vaccination Subsidy Scheme Doctors' Guide



Home > Feature Topic > Vaccination Schemes > 2022/23 Vaccination Subsidy Scheme Doctors' Guide

### 2022/23 Vaccination Subsidy Scheme Doctors' Guide



2 November 2022

Cover and Table of Content  
Disclaimer

List of Acronyms

Quick Guide

Chapter 1 - Vaccines covered, subsidy level and eligible groups under VSS

Chapter 2 - Participating in VSS

Chapter 3 - VSS at Non-clinic Settings

Chapter 4 - Forms and Documents

Chapter 5 - References and List of Appendices

Chapter 6 - Requirements on Vaccine Storage and Handling under VSS

Appendix A: "Consent to Use Vaccination Subsidy" Form and Types of Identity Documents Accepted under Vaccination Subsidy Scheme

Appendix B: Diagnostic Criteria of Intellectual Disability

Appendix C: Persons with Intellectual Disability (PID) Status

Appendix D: Documentary Proof for Persons receiving Disability Allowance / standard rate of "100% disabled" or "requiring constant attendance" under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme of the Social Welfare Department

Appendix E: Post-payment Checking

Appendix F: Monitoring and Management of Adverse Events Following Vaccination

Appendix G: Guideline for Temporary Storage of Clinical Waste Generated in Outreach Vaccination Activities (Provided by the Environmental Protection Department)

Appendix H: Vaccination Guide for Co-Administration of Seasonal Influenza Vaccine and COVID-19 Vaccines at Same Visit

<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45838.html>

< Back

^ Top



# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

## Infection control

- 70-80% alcohol-based hand rub for **hand hygiene**
- New alcohol prep/ swab for skin disinfection
- **New** alcohol swab or clean gauze for post vaccination compression of injection site
- Additional measures for **LAIV**
- Guide to Infection Control In Clinic Setting:  
[https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/guide\\_to\\_infection\\_control\\_in\\_clinic\\_setting.pdf](https://www.chp.gov.hk/files/pdf/guide_to_infection_control_in_clinic_setting.pdf)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGSbWriRI6U&feature=youtu.be>

# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

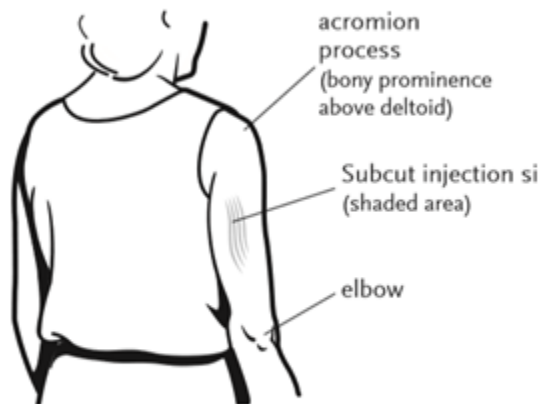
## 3 checks and 7 rights before vaccination

- **3 Checks:**
  - ◆ Check when taking out vaccine from storage
  - ◆ Check before preparing the vaccine
  - ◆ Check before administering the vaccine
- **7 Rights:**
  - ◆ Right recipient
  - ◆ Right vaccine
  - ◆ Right dosage
  - ◆ Right time (e.g. correct age, correct interval, **vaccine not expired**)
  - ◆ Right site
  - ◆ Right route, needle length and technique
  - ◆ Right documentation

# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

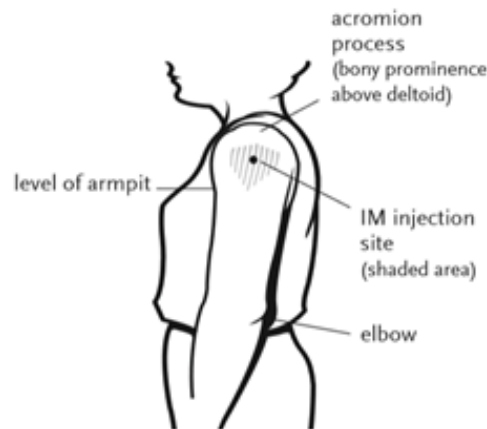
## Vaccination skills

### Fatty tissue over triceps



Insert needle at a 45° angle into the fatty tissue overlying the triceps muscle. Make sure you pinch up on the subcutaneous tissue to prevent injection into the muscle.

### Deltoid muscle of arm



Give in the central and thickest portion of the deltoid muscle – above the level of the armpit and approximately 2–3 fingerbreadths (~2") below the acromion process. To avoid causing an injury, do not inject too high (near the acromion process) or too low.

### Anterolateral thigh muscle



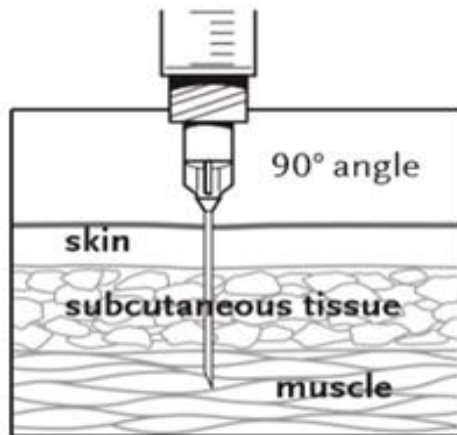
Insert needle at a 90° angle into the anterolateral thigh muscle.

Source: Immunization Action Coalition (IAC), U.S.A.

# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

## Vaccination skills

Intramuscular (IM) injection



Intranasal injection



Source: Immunization Action Coalition (IAC), U.S.A.

# 5. Preparation, Procedures and Vaccination Skills

## Prevention of sharps injuries

- **Avoid recapping** needles
- Discard used sharps **directly after use** and dispose them into a robust sharps box
- Place the sharps box **within arm's reach**
- Seal and replace sharps container when **three-quarters full**

## Proper disposal of clinical waste

- Clinical waste should be properly handled and disposed in accordance to EPD's Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste) (General) Regulation.

## 6. After Vaccination

### Documentations

- **Vaccination record/ clinic log** for record tracing or checking
- **Recipients' self-held vaccination card**
- **eHealth System (Subsidies) [eHS(S)]**

### Advise on arrangement of second dose of SIV

- For children aged below 9 years and have never received seasonal influenza

### Advise on arrangement of next dose of pneumococcal vaccination



# 6. After Vaccination

## After vaccination, observation for 15 minutes

## Adverse event following immunisation (AEFI)

- report any suspected AEFI to the Pharmacovigilance Unit of the Drug Office, Department of Health.  
[https://www.drugoffice.gov.hk/eps/do/en/healthcare\\_providers/adr\\_reporting/index.html](https://www.drugoffice.gov.hk/eps/do/en/healthcare_providers/adr_reporting/index.html)

## Emergency management

- Standby for emergency management
- Provide emergency treatment
- Call ambulance and refer to hospitals as necessary

## Management of clinical incident

The screenshot shows the Drug Office website interface. The main content area is titled "Adverse Drug Reactions (Reporting)". It includes a sub-section for "COVID-19 Vaccine# Adverse Event Reporting" with links to guidance for healthcare professionals, presentation slides for AEFI, and lists of adverse events. There is also a section for "Non COVID-19 Vaccine ADR Reporting" with links to guidance for healthcare professionals and a report form. The website header includes the Drug Office logo, navigation links, and a search bar. The footer includes a language selector for Urdu.



## 7. More Information

- CHP website – webpage on “Vaccination Schemes”  
<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/17980.html>
- CHP website – **videos on procedures/ cold chain**  
<https://www.chp.gov.hk/tc/features/102010.html>

### 項目管理及疫苗計劃科 Programme Management and Vaccination Division

電話 : 2125 2125/ 2125 2299/ 3975 4806

Phone

傳真 : 2713 9576

Fax

電郵 : [vacs@dh.gov.hk](mailto:vacs@dh.gov.hk)

Email

地址 : 九龍紅磡德豐街18-22號海濱廣場二座3樓 3/F, Two Harbourfront, 18-22 Tak  
Address : Fung Street, Hung Hom, Kowloon

網站 : <https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/45849.html>

Website



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**Thank You**