



Seasonal Influenza Vaccination & Pneumococcal Vaccination Arrangement for 2023/24



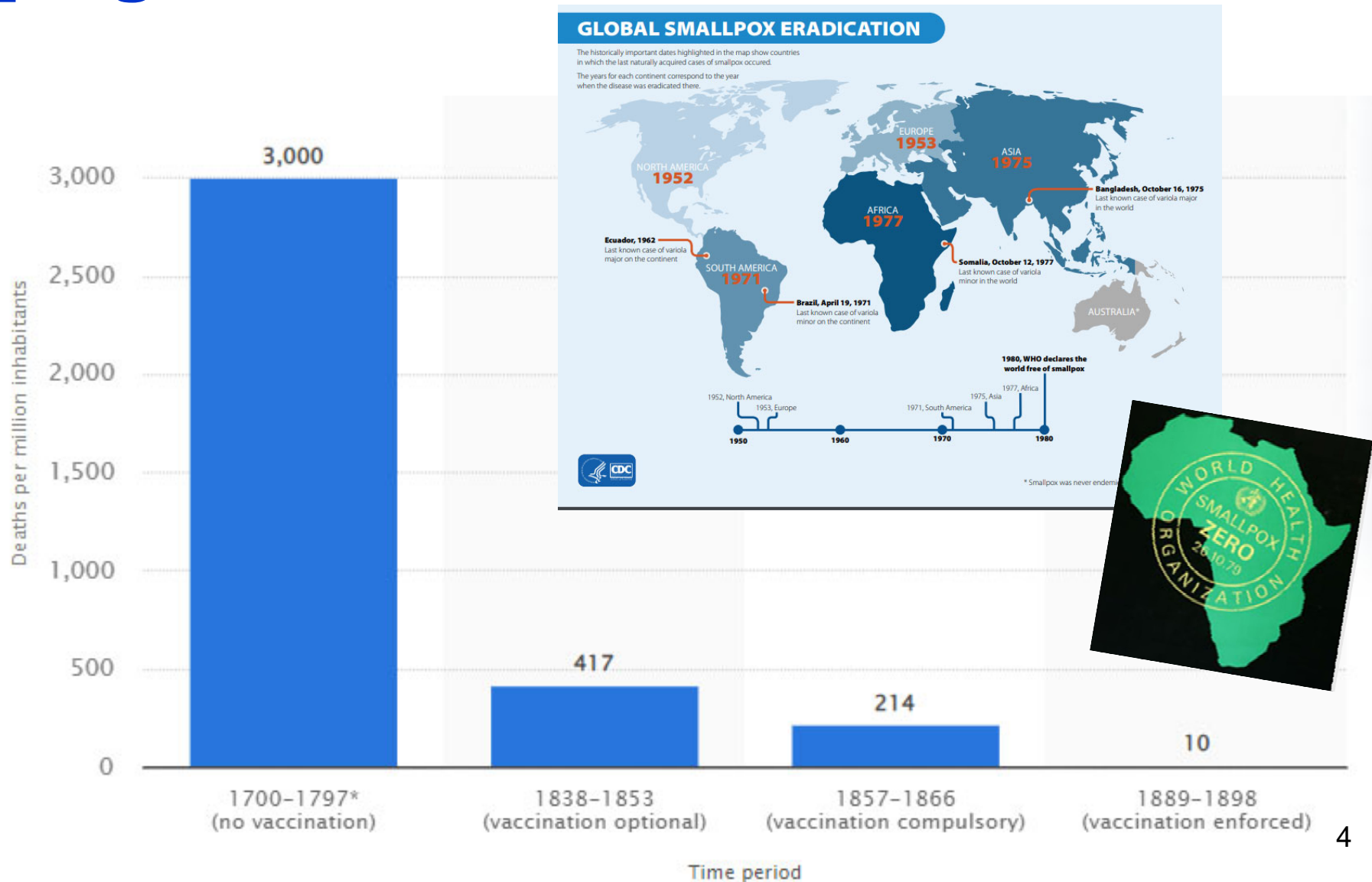
衛生署
Department of Health

Story of Life-saving Jobs

First vaccine – small pox vaccine

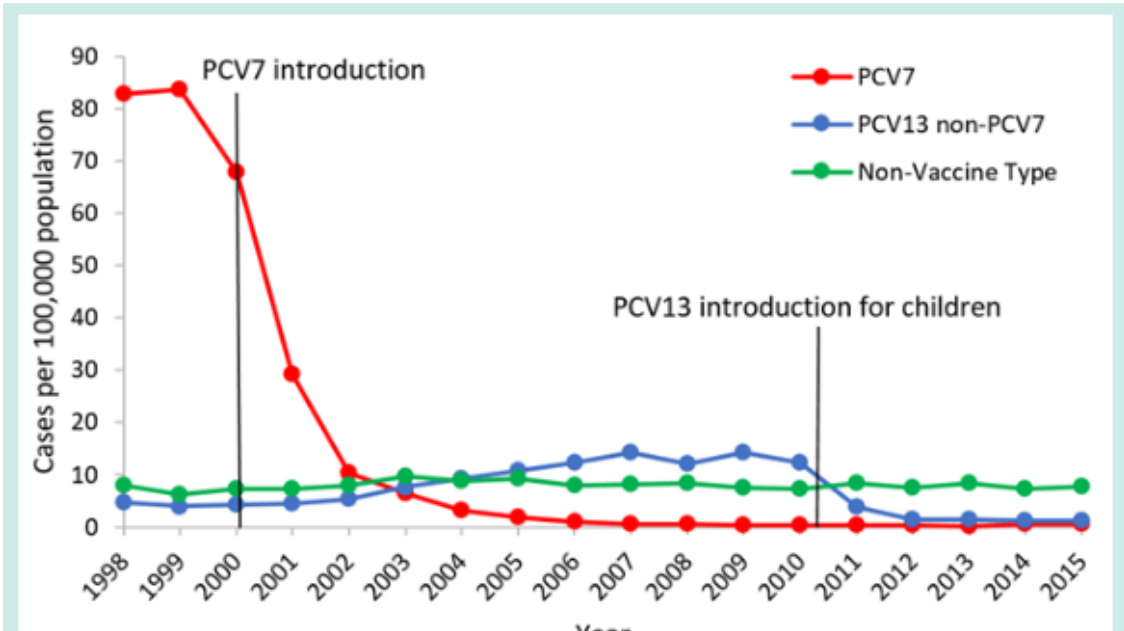


Key to Success of smallpox vaccination programmes – HIGH COVERAGE

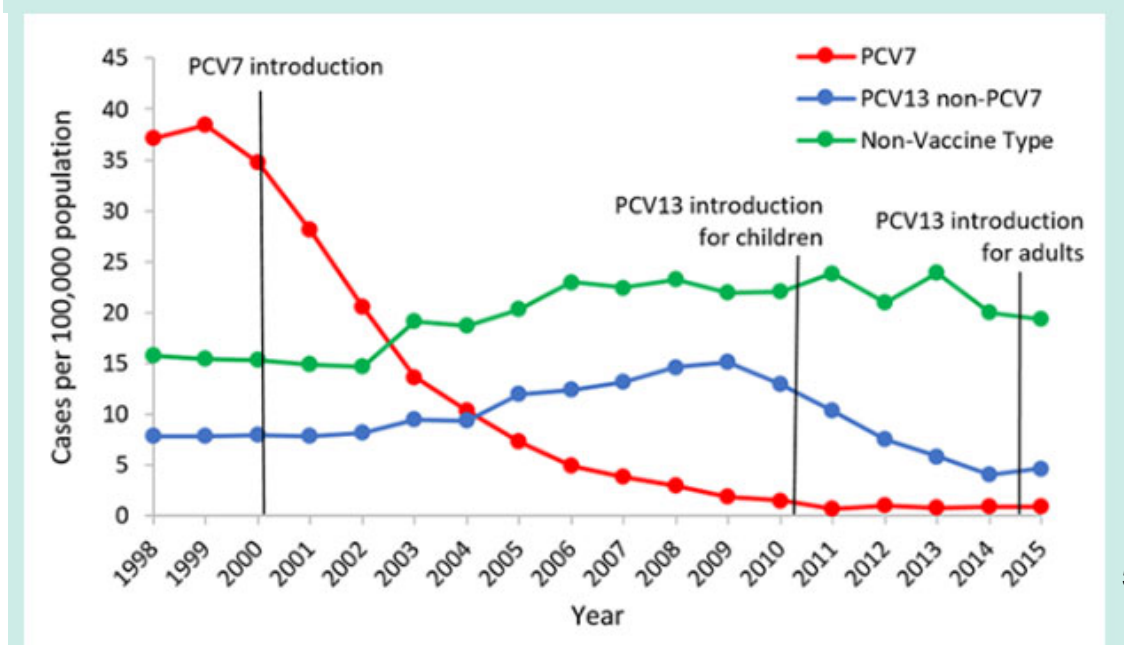


Pneumococcal Vaccines

Rates of invasive pneumococcal disease among children **under 5** years old, 1998-2005. USA CDC

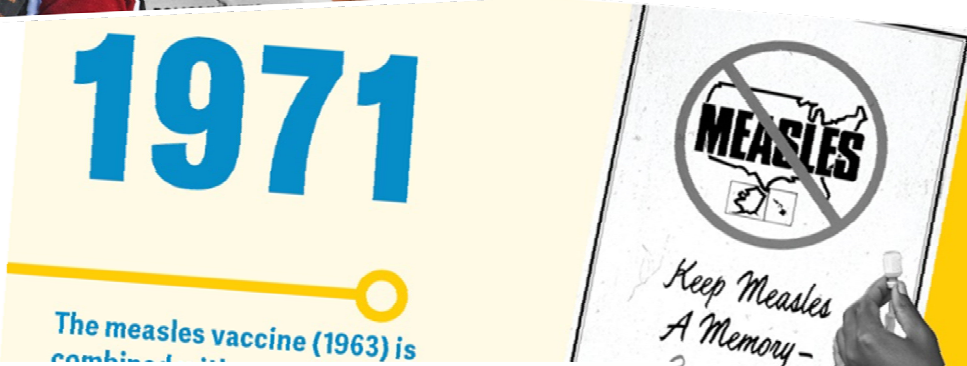


Rates of invasive pneumococcal disease among US adults > 65 years old, 1998 – 2015. USA CDC





History of the POLIO VACCINE



1971

The measles vaccine (1963) is combined...



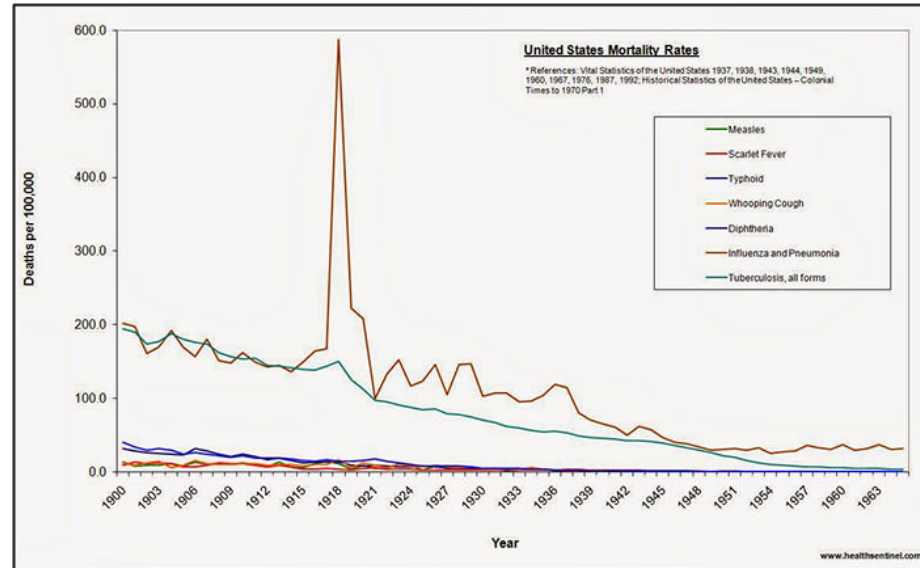
2021

WHO calls on Member States to prioritize vaccination against COVID-19 of health workers and at-risk groups in all countries.

History of flu vaccine and its impact on frontline clinical care and public health

1918-19

“The mother of all pandemics”



Progress toward
a vaccine



Frontline and public health perspective

- Influenza pandemics throughout history:
 - at least 3 before the 1918–19
 - another 3 in 1957–58, 1968–69 and 2009–10
- Development of **new vaccine technologies**
- **Monitoring the virus** by the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) and make recommendation to strains for development of vaccine
- Despite these efforts, seasonal influenza still kills up to 650 000 people a year globally

Upstream vs Downstream

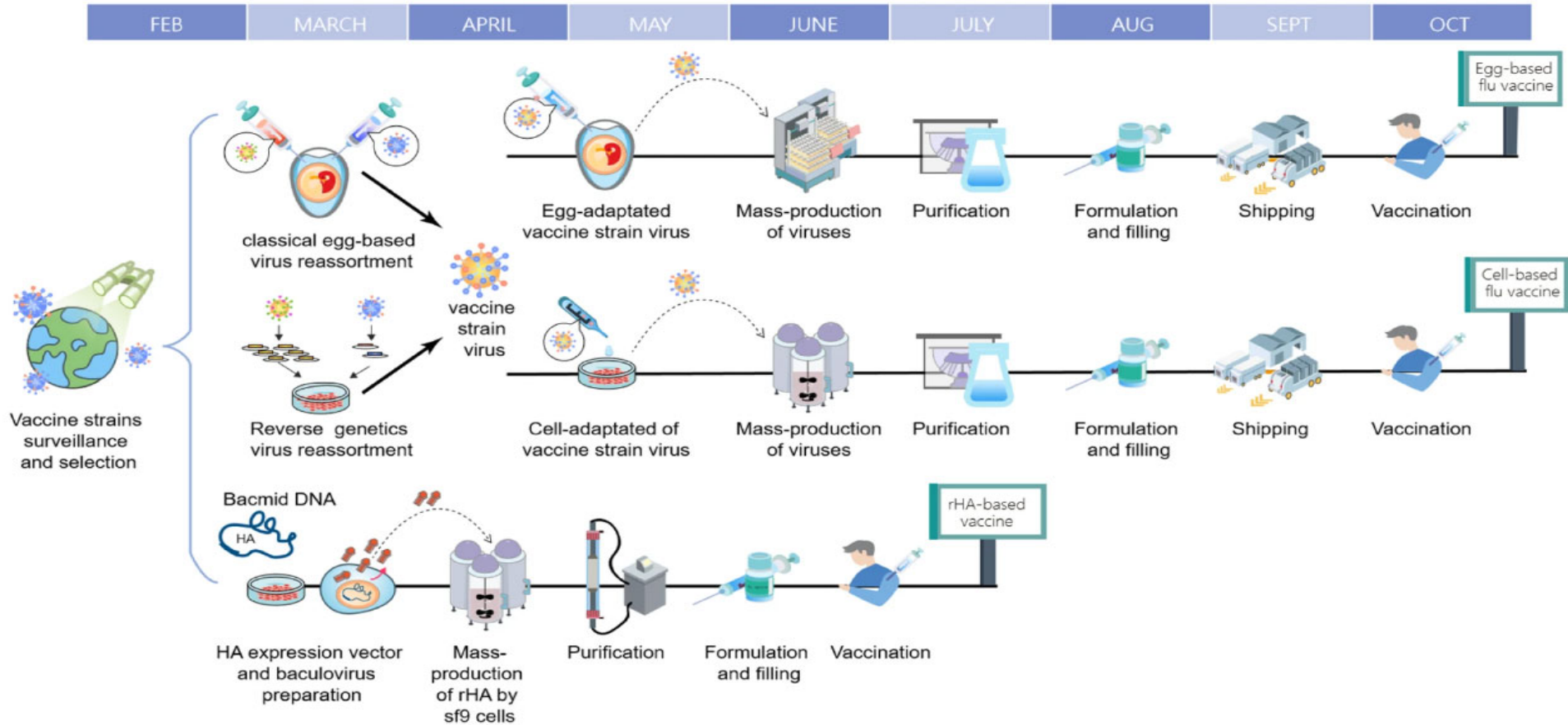


How well can SIV protect against hospitalization?

- Vaccine Efficacy varies each year.
- In US, Sept 2022 – Jan 2023, children who were vaccinated against flu were 68% less likely to be hospitalized because of flu illness or related complications (i.e. VE=68%), and 42% less likely to visit an emergency department because of flu-related illness. Benefit from vaccination was observed across all age groups. [US CDC 2023]
- VE decrease over time: Reductions in VE during the 9 months after vaccination in children, declined by 2-5 percentage points per month. Receive vaccination through vaccination programmes every year. [HKU 2018]

Flu vaccines production cycle

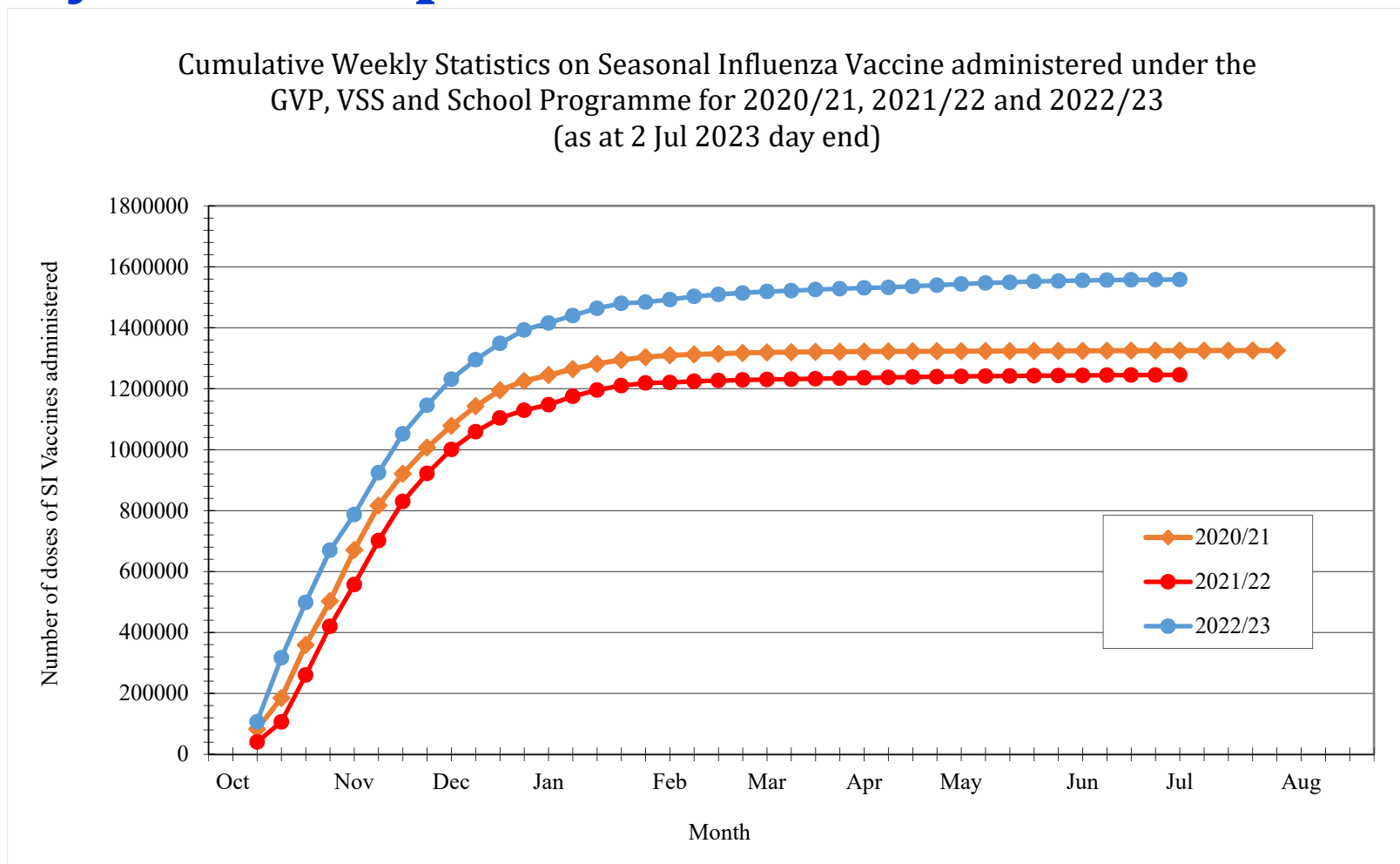
Current influenza vaccine productions



WHO Recommendations

- Different in the **Northern Hemisphere** and the **Southern Hemisphere** due to the differences in the timing of influenza seasons.
- February / March: announce the proposed strains for influenza vaccines to be used in the Northern Hemisphere for the next influenza season
- Once announced, the manufacturers can start preparing for the production of vaccines for the coming influenza season
- The vaccines will be produced and made available for the next winter influenza season

Statistics of SIV all programmes – 3 years comparison



Total 1 560 000 doses of SIV were given in 2022/23 under the Government vaccination programmes

(Total doses increased by 25.3% as compared with 2021/22)

- Government Vaccination Programme (GVP) 610 000
- Vaccination Subsidy Schemes (VSS) 674 400
- School Outreach (Free of Charge) 275 700

Scientific Committee of Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD): Summary Statement on Vaccination Practice for Health Care Workers in Hong Kong (Sep 2017)

- All HCW should receive seasonal influenza vaccination annually once the vaccine is available

SCVPD: Recommendations on SIV for 2023/24

- The seasonal influenza activity in Hong Kong has remained at a low level after the end of 2019-20 winter influenza season in mid-February 2020 due to the start of pandemic COVID-19.
- As such, immunity against influenza in the local community as a whole may be relatively weaker than in the past.
- Summer peak in late August 2023.

Coverage of HCWs in Government settings and Residential Care Homes in past 3 years

| Eligible Group | Coverage in 2020/21 | Coverage in 2021/22 | Coverage in 2022/23 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Healthcare workers (DH/HA/RCH) | 47.1% | 34.6% | 37.6% ↑ |

More overseas experiences

Australia: New South Wales Mandatory SIV for

- Certain HCWs groups All students who undertake clinical placements as well

↑ productivity

↓ absenteeism

England 2022: NHS 60.5% (non-mandatory)

↓ All-cause mortality and morbidity among residents in Long-Term Care facilities

USA: hospitals making staff flu vaccination mandatory :
2013: 37% to 2017: over 60%.

Coverage in settings with employer-mandated vaccination:
65% to 88.4%

Coverage of HCWs whose employers had neither a requirement nor a recommendation for flu jab: coverage <30%

USA HCWs 2021-22: 79.9%

SIV of HCWs: systematic review of qualitative evidence ([BMC Health Services Research](#) Nov 2017)

Low uptake rate among HCWs on SIV despite a range of promotion on SIV due to a range of beliefs

- Concerns about side-effects
- Skepticism about vaccine effectiveness
- The belief that influenza is not a serious illness

Why is it importance for Healthcare Workers to get SIV?

- WHO stated there is scientific evidence showed a protective effect of vaccinating HCWs against influenza infection and they are one of the priority groups to receive SIV
- Reduce the **overall burden of respiratory illnesses** in the upcoming season

Maximizing **HCWs** influenza vaccination uptake:

- Occupational health: **Protect HCWs** who are exposing to sick patients
- Safeguarding **vulnerable populations by reduce spread of influenza to vulnerable patient groups**
- **Maintain** healthcare **services during influenza epidemics**

Seasonal influenza vaccination coverage survey for the 2015/16 season (general public)

Reported on Communicable Disease Watch *Dec 18 – Dec 31, 2016*

Reasons for **receiving**

- 32.8% believed that vaccination is effective in reducing the risk of flu/ease flu-like symptoms
- 21.3% worry of getting flu/peak flu season
- 17.5% recommended by health care workers
- 16.6% have a habit to receive the vaccination every year
- 13.5% know there is free / subsidised vaccination

Reasons for **not receiving**

- 45.9% perceive themselves as being healthy and will not easily get the flu
- 14.1% are concerned about effectiveness of SIV
- 10.4% are concerned about the safety of SIV
- 9.7% consider vaccine is expensive
- 8.5% have no time

Study of Countering Vaccine Hesitancy through Medical Expert Endorsement

- Scientist and medical experts are: trustworthy and also a **well suited messenger** in contrasting disinformation during vaccination campaigns
- Participants' propensity to **vaccinate is positively** affected by **expert endorsement**
- Messages from "doctors and researchers" as the source of information reported greater beliefs about the protectiveness of vaccines compared to the control group (whose messages omitted any reference to experts)
- Expert endorsement requires repeated exposure in order to significantly orient participants' intentions

Other Actions to Address Vaccine Hesitancy

Expert promulgation



The 1st International Advanced Practice Nursing Conference 2021 (May 22-23)

Hong Kong nursing profession's united call for COVID-19 vaccination



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

Interim Guidance Notes
On Common Medical Diseases and COVID-19 Vaccination In Primary Care Settings

(As of August 9, 2023)



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases
and
Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Consensus Interim Recommendations on
the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in Hong Kong
(As of 29 March 2023)



香港婦產科學院
Hong Kong College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
懷孕及餵哺母乳之婦女
接種新冠肺炎疫苗

vaccination among pregnant and lactating women

Infographics

A concise guide

For the Elderly

The elderly should receive COVID-19 vaccines as soon as possible for their personal protection.

Experts recommend that any elderly who have received influenza vaccines before can safely receive COVID-19 vaccines.

The elderly are the group with highest risk of complication and death from COVID-19 disease.

COVID-19 vaccines protect the elderly from having serious disease and death from COVID-19.

Even with chronic disease(s), the elderly should get vaccinated as soon as possible for protection if these disease(s) are under stable control.

For the frailest elderly, the benefit versus risk may have to be carefully weighed.

Version date: 24 September 2021. Please refer to www.coronavirus.gov.hk for most updated information.

Busting Myths about COVID-19 Vaccines Series

The mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 will alter human DNA? **FALSE**

mRNA does not enter the nucleus of the cell and does not affect our DNA either.

mRNA vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein (or a piece of a protein) that triggers an immune response. That immune response is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

COVID-19 Vaccines

Basic Knowledge Series

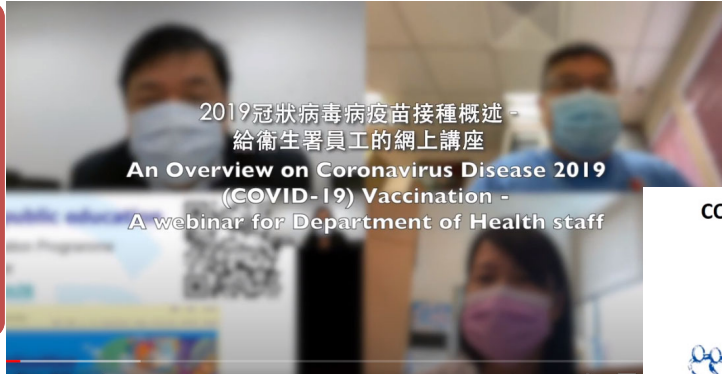
Vaccination

www.coronavirus.gov.hk
www.CentreforHealthProtection
2833 0111

Systematic Review on the Effectiveness of Interventions for Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake

- **Personalising communications** and **sending text message booking reminders** are effective interventions.
- Communicating the effectiveness and safety of the vaccine can increase uptake
- **Social norm interventions** asking recipients to ‘join the millions’ being vaccinated can be effective
- Previous experimental evidence also suggests that communicating about herd immunity can increase vaccine uptake
- Reminders increase vaccine uptake

Healthcare workers influence



COVID-19 Vaccination for Residential Care Homes for Elderly (RCHE)
Briefing to VMPS

Hong Kong Geriatrics Society - Centre of Health Protection
 17 Nov 2021

康佩玲醫生 Dr Carolyn Kng
 醫院管理局 律敦治及邵鐘堅醫院 內科及老人科部門 顧問醫生
 Consultant Geriatrician (M&G), RTSKH
 Service Director (P&CHC), Hong Kong East Cluster
 Council Member, Hong Kong Geriatrics Society

Significant others influence



Post COVID-19



COVID-19 pandemic no longer a 'global health emergency' - YouTube

[前往](#)

圖片可能受版權保護。瞭解詳情

- Return to normalcy in Hong Kong, increased in Flu activity observed from April to May

Role of Health Care Workers in promoting SIV

(1) Get your flu jab timely

- Reduce morbidity related to respiratory infections
- Reduce risk of transmitting influenza to patients who are at high-risk of complications and mortality
- Strengthen workforce capacity during peak season

(2) Promote SIV to patients and coworkers

- Be proactive in promoting, especially to persons in the priority groups
- Clarify main concerns about effectiveness and safety of the vaccination



SIV Programmes in 2023/24

Vaccination Programmes/Schemes in 2023/24

- 1. Government Vaccination Programme (GVP)**
(including Residential Care Home Vaccination Programme, RVP)
- 2. Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS)**
- 3. School Outreach** *(For Seasonal Influenza Vaccination only)*

Eligible groups of Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS)

Subsidised SIV for the following eligible groups (Hong Kong residents) by private doctors enrolled in VSS

- Pregnant women
- Persons of age 50 years or above
- **Children and adolescents aged 6 months to under 18 years, or aged 18 or above studying in secondary school in Hong Kong**
- Persons with Intellectual Disability (PID)
- Recipients of Disability Allowance
- Recipients of Standard Rate of “100% Disabled” or “Requiring Constant Attendance” under CSSA

- (<https://apps.hcv.gov.hk/Public/en/SPS/Search>)



School Outreach

(I) 2023/24 School Outreach (Free of Charge)

- **Free vaccination** for all students in participating schools, irrespective of HK resident status
- **Vaccine procurement:** To continue the vaccine procurement by the **Government** to all secondary schools, primary schools and KG/CCCs
- As at early August 2023, around **240** Secondary Schools **440** primary schools & **710** KG/CCC have enrolled to the programme

(II) VSS School Outreach (Extra Charge Allowed)



School enrolment rate to respective School Outreach Programmes

| | KG/CCC | | PS | | SS | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 |
| No. of participating schools (% of all schools in HK) | | | | | | |
| SIVSOP | 759 (68%) | 712 (64%) | 486 (73%) | 459 (70%) | N/A | 173 (30%) |
| VSS | 81 (17%) | 120 (11%) | 113 (17%) | 122 (19%) | N/A | 100 (18%) |
| Participated in school outreach programmes | 840 (75%) | 832 (75%) | 599 (90%) | 581 (89%) | / | 273 (48%) |

Pneumococcal Vaccination (PV) for the Elderly

PV Programmes in 2023/24 (all year round)

| Elderly aged 65 years or above | Have never received pneumococcal vaccination | Have received 23vPPV | Have received PCV13 |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| <u>With</u> high-risk conditions | One dose of free or subsidised PCV 13 followed by one dose of 23vPPV one year after | One dose of free or subsidised PCV13 mop-up vaccination one year after the previous dose of 23vPPV | One dose of free or subsidised 23vPPV one year after the previous dose of PCV13 |
| <u>Without</u> high-risk conditions | Continue to provide one dose of free or subsidized 23vPPV | No need to re-vaccinate | No need to re-vaccinate |

Public Education and Promotion

CHP Facebook & social media

Posters and leaflets



A new TV and radio API for SIV



增強流感免疫力，不要等，快打針

衛生防護中心, CHP, Department of Health, HKSARG

訂閱

喜歡 分享 下載 儲存



Promotional Activities

- Senior officials taking the initiative to get vaccines
- Seminars and briefings to stakeholders





SIV commencement date for 2023/24 Season

- Vaccination Subsidy Scheme 28 Sep 2023
- Government Vaccination Programme 5 Oct 2023
- SIV School Outreach (Free of charge) 5 Oct 2023

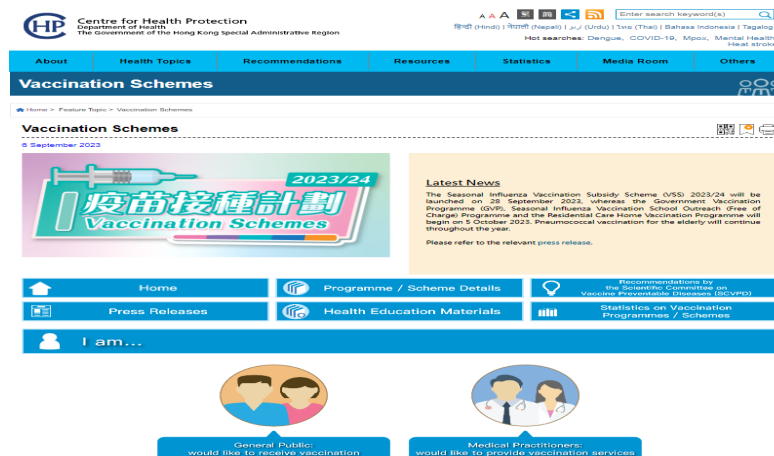
Take Actions

(1) Get your flu jab timely

- Reduce morbidity related to respiratory infections
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- Strengthen workforce capacity during peak season

(2) Promote SIV to patients and coworkers

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- Clarify main concerns about effectiveness and safety of the vaccination



Thank You

Please visit CHP website for more details:

<https://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/17980.html>

The screenshot shows the website for the Centre for Health Protection (CHP). The header includes the CHP logo, the name 'Centre for Health Protection', and the address 'Department of Health, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region'. There are language options for Hindi, Nepali, Urdu, Thai, Bahasa Indonesia, and Tagalog. A search bar is present with the text 'Enter search keyword(s)'. Below the header is a navigation menu with 'About', 'Health Topics', 'Recommendations', 'Resources', 'Statistics', 'Media Room', and 'Others'. The main content area is titled 'Vaccination Schemes' and features a large graphic for the '2023/24 Vaccination Schemes' with the Chinese characters '疫苗接種計劃'. To the right, there is a 'Latest News' section with a brief announcement about the Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (VSS) 2023/24. At the bottom, there is a footer with icons for 'Home', 'Programme / Scheme Details', 'Press Releases', 'Health Education Materials', and 'Statistics on Vaccination Programmes / Schemes'. A user selection bar says 'I am...'. Below the website screenshot are two circular icons: one for 'General Public: would like to receive vaccination' and one for 'Medical Practitioners: would like to provide vaccination services'.



Programme Management and
Vaccination Division Enquiry Line:

2125 2125