

15 December 2021

## VACCINE BOOSTER PROGRAMME

This circular provides an update to aviation sector employers on the Ministry of Health's (MOH) vaccine booster programme and supersedes CAAS Circular 2021/79.

2 From 14 December 2021, the Ministry of Health (MOH) will extend the vaccination booster programme to individuals aged 18 to 29 years. All eligible persons will be able to receive their booster doses of the mRNA vaccine five months after completing their primary vaccination series.

3 **Eligible individuals are urged to complete the booster vaccination as soon as possible.** The impact on the reduction of severity of illness is extremely high for those who have taken a booster dose. It is not necessary to use the same brand of mRNA vaccine for the booster dose.

4 **Getting Moderna as a booster may provide better protection.** In a recent MOH study on the relative effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna as booster shots in terms of reducing infection risks, two combinations were compared:

- a) All three doses of Pfizer-BioNTech; and
- b) Pfizer-BioNTech for the first two doses and Moderna for the booster.

While mRNA vaccines work very well as boosters, it was found that combination b) had a slight 10% edge in terms of reducing infection risks.

5 Eligible individuals will be invited to make an appointment for their booster dose. An SMS with a personalized booking link will be sent to their registered mobile number to book an appointment with [www.vaccine.gov.sg](http://www.vaccine.gov.sg). They may receive their booster dose at any vaccination centre or Public Health Preparedness Clinic (PHPC).

6 **No appointment is needed for eligible individuals<sup>1</sup> to get a Moderna booster dose.** Eligible individuals may walk-in to any of the Vaccination Centres offering the Moderna vaccine, without a prior appointment. Please refer to <https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/vaccination> for more information.

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<sup>1</sup> Eligible individuals are those that are aged 18 and above.