

**Government Vaccination Programme 2012/13**  
**Who is it for and Where is it available?**

**A) Seasonal Influenza Vaccination**

Based on the recommendations given by the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD), the Government will provide free seasonal influenza vaccination to the following groups of person in the year 2012/13. Other persons may consult their doctors for the need and details of seasonal influenza vaccination.

SCVPD recommended categories	Persons with free vaccination provided by the Government	Major Service Providers	Vaccination Period	Remarks
<b>Persons living or working in personal care institutions</b>	<b>Residents of RCHEs &amp; RCHDs</b>	♦ Visiting Medical Officers	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	DH will approach RCHEs / RCHDs directly for logistical arrangements
	<b>Healthcare workers of RCHEs &amp; RCHDs</b>	♦ Visiting Medical Officers	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	DH will approach RCHEs / RCHDs directly for logistical arrangements
<b>Persons aged 50 years<sup>#</sup> or above* living in the community</b>	<b>Community living persons aged 50 years<sup>#</sup> or above* receiving CSSA</b>	♦ HA GOPCs ♦ DH EHCs (for members)	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	
<b>Persons with chronic medical problems**</b>	<b>CSSA recipients aged below 65 years with chronic medical problems** attending public clinics</b>	♦ HA GOPCs ♦ HA SOPCs (for follow-up patients) ♦ DH Chest Clinics, SPP Treatment Centre, PDQA Clinics (for existing clients)	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	
	<b>Community living persons aged 65 years<sup>#</sup> or above with chronic medical problems** attending public clinics</b>	♦ HA GOPCs ♦ HA SOPCs (for follow-up patients) ♦ DH EHCs (for members) ♦ DH Chest Clinics, SPP Treatment Centre, PDQA Clinics (for existing clients)	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	
	<b>In-patients under HA : hospitalised patients (including paediatric patients) with chronic medical problems**, infirmary psycho-geriatric, mentally ill and mentally handicapped units/wards</b>	♦ HA hospitals	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	HA will arrange internal logistics

SCVPD recommended categories	Persons with free vaccination provided by the Government	Major Service Providers	Vaccination Period	Remarks
	<b>Paediatric out-patients with chronic medical problems** or on long-term aspirin</b>	♦ HA SOPCs	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	
<b>Healthcare workers</b>	<b>Healthcare workers working in DH, HA or in the public service</b>	♦ By the respective organisation	♦ Start from 18 October 2012	Internal arrangement by respective organisation
<b>Poultry workers</b>	<b>Poultry workers or workers who may be involved in poultry-culling operations</b>	♦ HA designated GOPCs	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	Internal arrangement by respective organisation
<b>Children between the age of 6 months and less than 6 years***</b>	<b>Children between the age of 6 months and less than 6 years from families receiving CSSA</b>	♦ DH MCHCs	Start from 1 November 2012	Clients may contact the MCHCs for details
<b>Pregnant women</b>	<b>Pregnant women receiving CSSA</b>	♦ DH MCHCs (for existing clients) ♦ HA antenatal clinics (for follow-up patients)	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	
<b>Pig farmers/ pig-slaughtering industry personnel</b>	<b>Pig farmers / pig-slaughtering industry personnel</b>	♦ HA designated GOPCs	♦ Start from 1 November 2012	Internal arrangement by respective organisation

\* **Elderly persons aged 65 years\* or above living in the community** may go to private doctors enrolled in Elderly Vaccination Subsidy Scheme (EVSS) to receive seasonal influenza vaccine with Government subsidy.

\*\* **People with chronic medical problems** mainly refer to those who have chronic cardiovascular (except hypertension without complication), pulmonary, metabolic or renal disease, obesity (Body Mass Index 30 or above), who are immunocompromised, children and adolescents (aged 6 months to 18 years) on long-term aspirin therapy, and those with chronic neurological condition that can compromise respiratory function or the handling of respiratory secretions or that can increase the risk for aspiration or those who lack the ability to care for themselves for their increased risk of complications and death associated with influenza infection.

\*\*\* **Children between the age of 6 months and less than 6 years** may go to private doctors enrolled in the Childhood Influenza Vaccination Subsidy Scheme to receive seasonal influenza vaccine with Government subsidy.

# eligibility counted by year instead of date of birth

## B) Pneumococcal Vaccination

Scientific evidence has indicated that pneumococcal and seasonal influenza vaccinations given together in the elderly population reduce hospitalization, complications and mortality. As such, the Government will provide a free *single* dose of 23-valent Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Vaccine (23vPPV) to the following elders aged 65\* or above and have never received the vaccine before (or have received one dose of 23vPPV before 65 years old and more than five years earlier).

SCVPD recommended categories	Persons with free vaccination provided by the Government	Major Service Providers	Vaccination Period	Remarks
Elderly persons aged 65 years <sup>#</sup> or above* who have never received any 23vPPV before (or have received one dose of 23vPPV before 65 years old and more than five years earlier)	Residents of RCHEs & eligible residents of RCHDs	♦ Visiting Medical Officers	♦ Continuous since GVP 2009/10	DH will approach RCHEs / RCHDs directly for logistical arrangements
	Community living persons aged 65 years <sup>#</sup> or above with chronic medical problems** attending public clinics	♦ HA GOPCs ♦ HA SOPCs (for follow-up patients) ♦ DH EHCs (for members) ♦ Chest Clinics, SPP Treatment Centre, PDQA Clinics (for existing clients)	♦ Continuous since GVP 2009/10	
	Community living persons aged 65 years <sup>#</sup> or above receiving CSSA	♦ HA GOPCs ♦ DH EHCs (for members)	♦ Continuous since GVP 2009/10	
	In-patients under HA and aged 65 years <sup>#</sup> or above: - with chronic medical problems**, or - in infirmary psycho-geriatric, mentally ill and mentally handicapped units/wards	♦ HA hospitals	♦ Continuous since GVP 2009/10	

\* **Elderly persons aged 65 years<sup>#</sup> or above** may go to private doctors enrolled in Elderly Vaccination Subsidy Scheme to receive pneumococcal vaccine with Government subsidy. Elders aged 65 or above who have never received any 23vPPV before were recommended / entitled to receive free / subsidised 23vPPV. Subsidy for pneumococcal vaccination lasts throughout the year.

\*\* **People with chronic medical problems** mainly refer to those who have chronic cardiovascular (except hypertension without complication), pulmonary, metabolic or renal disease, obesity (BMI 30 or above), who are immunocompromised, children and adolescents (aged 6 months to 18 years) on long-term aspirin therapy, and those with chronic neurological condition that can compromise respiratory function or the handling of respiratory secretions or that can increase the risk for aspiration or those who lack the ability to care for themselves for their increased risk of complications and death associated with influenza infection.

<sup>#</sup> eligibility counted by year instead of date of birth

For more information about the Government Vaccination Programme, please visit the thematic webpage on Centre for Health Protection (CHP) website: [http://www.chp.gov.hk/view\\_content.asp?lang=en&info\\_id=17980](http://www.chp.gov.hk/view_content.asp?lang=en&info_id=17980).

For enquiries relating to DH services, please call 2125 2125; for HA services, please call 2300 6555.

**Abbreviations:**

CSSA:	Comprehensive Social Security Assistance
DH:	Department of Health
EHCs:	Elderly Health Centres
EVSS:	Elderly Vaccination Subsidy Scheme
GOPCs:	General Outpatient Clinics
GVP:	Government Vaccination Programme
HA:	Hospital Authority
MCHCs:	Maternal & Child Health Centres
PDQA:	Professional Development and Quality Assurance
RCHDs:	Residential Care Homes for the persons with disabilities
RCHEs:	Residential Care Homes for the Elderly
SCVPD	Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases
SOPCs:	Specialist Outpatient Clinics
SPP:	Special Preventive Programme

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