

No.NHMHP-CCVM03/19/1/2021- E-31128-
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh

21022

To

All the Chief Medical Officers
In Himachal Pradesh

Dated: Shimla-9, the



Subject: SOPs for 2nd dose prior to prescribed Time Interval (After 28 days and before 84 days) due to international travel for education purpose, joining employment or India's contingent to Tokyo Olympics.

Sir/ Madam,

This is in reference to the D.O letter No. 1920764/2020/Imm. dated 15th May 2021 and D.O No/2072903/2021/IMMUNIZATION dated 07th June 2021 (Copy enclosed) received from Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India, Nirman Bhawan regarding the subject cited above.

In this regard, it is to inform you that the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has received several representations for allowing administration of second dose of COVISHIELD for such persons who have only taken first dose of COVISHIELD and are seeking to undertake international travel for educational/employment purposes or as part of contingent for Olympic games, but whose planned travel dates fall prior to completion of the currently mandated minimum interval of 84 days from the date of first dose.

Therefore with a view to provide full coverage of vaccination and facilitating international travel for such genuine reasons, the Ministry has issued the SOPs for the same (Copy enclosed).

A. The Special dispensation will be available to :-

- a. Students who have to undertake foreign travel for the purpose of education
- b. Persons who have to take up jobs in foreign countries
- c. Athletes, Sports persons and accompanying staff of Indian contingent attending International Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo.

B. Chief Medical Officer of respective districts is hereby designated as competent authority for according permission for such administration of second dose of COVISHIELD.

C. The competent authority shall check the following before according a permission for administration of second doses before the period of 84 days after the date of

first dose

- a. Whether a period of 28 days has elapsed after the date of first dose.
- b. **Genuineness of the purpose of travel based on documents related to-**
 - Admission offers or associated formal communications for the purpose of education.
 - Whether a person is already studying in a foreign educational institution and has to return to that institution for continuing his/her education.
 - Interview calls for a job or offer letters for taking up employment
 - Nomination to participate in the Tokyo Olympic games.

D. It is also advised that vaccination may be availed in such cases through passport which is one of the permissible ID documents as per the current guidelines, so that the passport number is printed in the vaccination schedule. However, if passport was not used at the time of administration of first dose, the details of the photo ID Card used for vaccination certificate is not to be insisted upon. Wherever necessary, the competent authority may issue another certificate linking the vaccination certificate with the passport number of the beneficiary.

E. This facility shall be available to those who need to undertake international travel for these for these specified purposes in the **period up to 31st August 2021.**

F. All the technical protocols as prescribed in the Guidelines of the Ministry regarding COVID Vaccination Centres and AEFI management etc. shall have to be followed.

The COWIN system will soon provide the facility for administration of 2nd dose in such exceptional cases.

It is clarified that these guidelines have been issued specifically only for Covishield because only the time interval between the 2 doses of Covishield has been increased from 6-8 weeks to 12-16 weeks. The period for COVAXIN has remained the same i.e. 4-6 weeks and hence there was no need for any special dispensation for 2nd dose of COVAXIN.

Hence you are requested to go through the SOPs and implement accordingly in the districts and the SOPs may be widely publicised and all necessary measures may be taken immediately for implementation of the SOPs.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,


Mission Director
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh

8/6/21

Endst No. As above: Dated Shimla-9 the
Copy to:

1. The Secretary (Health) to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
2. All the Deputy Commissioners, Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Director Health Services, Himachal Pradesh.
4. All the Medical Superintendents of Medical Colleges and Hospitals for information & n/a.
5. All the District Immunization Officers, in the Himachal Pradesh for information & n/a.
6. The SMO, UNDP, SIHFW Campus, Parimahal, Shimla-9 for information & n/a.
7. The SMO, NPSP Unit Parimahal, Himachal Pradesh.




Mission Director
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh

8/6/21



राजेश भूषण, आईएएस
सचिव

RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
Government of India
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

D.O No /2072903/2021/IMMUNIZATION
7th June 2021

Dear Colleague,

The Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has received several representations for allowing administration of second dose of Covishield for such persons who have only taken first dose of Covishield and are seeking to undertake international travel for educational purposes or employment opportunities or as part of India's contingent for Tokyo Olympic games, but whose planned travel dates fall prior to completion of the currently mandated minimum interval of 84 days from the date of first dose.

2. Therefore, with a view to provide full coverage of vaccination and facilitating international travel for such genuine reasons, the Ministry has issued the SOPs for the same. A copy of the SOPs is enclosed.

3. It is requested that the SOPs may be widely publicised and all necessary measures are taken immediately for implementation of the SOPs.

Harm Regards.

Yours sincerely

(Rajesh Bhushan)

Encl: as above

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Health) – All States/UTs.

**SOPs on
Administration of Second Dose of Covishield Vaccine Prior to Prescribed Time Interval
(after 28 days but before 84 days) to persons intending to undertake international travel
for education purpose, for joining employment in foreign countries
and for India's contingent to Tokyo Olympics.**

1. Presently, based on the recommendations by National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NÉGVAC), the schedule of Covishield vaccine under National Covid-19 Vaccination Strategy is to administer the 2nd dose at 12-16 weeks interval (i.e. after 84 days), after administration of 1st dose.
2. The Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has received several representations for allowing administration of second dose of Covishield for such persons who have only taken first dose of Covishield and are seeking to undertake international travel for educational purposes or employment opportunities or for part of India's contingent for Tokyo Olympic games, but whose planned travel dates fall prior to completion of the currently mandated minimum interval of 84 days from the date of first dose.
3. The matter has been discussed in Empowered Group 5 (EG-5) and appropriate recommendations have been received. In this context, with a view to provide full coverage of vaccination and facilitating international travel for such genuine reasons, following procedure shall be followed for administration of second dose of Covishield vaccine for such beneficiaries –
 - a. This special dispensation will be available to –
 - (i) Students who have to undertake foreign travel for the purposes of education.
 - (ii) Persons who have to take up jobs in foreign countries.
 - (iii) Athletes, Sportspersons and accompanying staff of Indian contingent attending International Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo.
 - b. States/UT governments shall designate a competent authority in each District for according permission for such administration of second dose of Covishield.
 - c. The competent authority shall check the following before according a permission for administration of second dose before the period of 84 days after the date of first dose –
 - (i) Whether a period of 28 days has elapsed after the date of first dose.
 - (ii) Genuineness of the purpose of travel based on documents related to –
 1. Admission offers or associated formal communications for the purpose of education.

2. Whether a person is already studying in a foreign educational institution and has to return to that institution for continuing his/her education.
 3. Interview calls for a job or offer letters for taking up employment
 4. Nomination to participate in the Tokyo Olympic games.
- d. It is advised that vaccination may be availed in such cases through Passport which is one of the permissible ID documents as per the current guidelines, so that the passport number is printed in the vaccination certificate. However, if Passport was not used at the time of administration of first dose, the details of the photo ID Card used for vaccination will be printed in the vaccination certificate and mention of the Passport in the vaccination certificate is not to be insisted upon. Wherever necessary, the competent authority may issue another certificate linking the vaccination certificate with the passport number of the beneficiary.
- e. This facility shall be available to those who need to undertake international travel for these specified purposes in the period up to 31st August, 2021.
- f. All technical protocols as prescribed in the Guidelines of the Ministry regarding COVID Vaccination Centres and AEFI management etc. shall have to be followed.
4. It is clarified that Covishield, produced by the Serum Institute of India and approved by the DCGI, is one of the vaccines recognised by the WHO for emergency use as on 3rd June 2021. The relevant entry is at S.No. 4 of the WHO EUL, available at <https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/sites/default/files/documents/Status%20of%20COVID-19%20Vaccines%20within%20WHO%20EUL-PQ%20evaluation%20process%20-%203%20June%202021.pdf>. Mention of vaccine type as "Covishield" is sufficient and no other qualifying entries are required in the vaccination certificates.
5. The Co-WIN system will soon provide the facility for administration of 2nd dose in such exceptional cases.