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Guidelines

COVID-19 Vaccination Updated Sinopharm Vaccine Guidelines

Objective

To provide guidelines for the Sinopharm vaccine storage, handling, administration and safe disposal along with recommendations for vaccine recipients.

Rationale

Vaccines are important part of strategies to curtail the devastating Covid-19 pandemic. Sinopharm vaccine needs special handling to maintain its effectiveness. Safe transportation, storage, administration and disposal of vaccine waste must be ensured at all vaccination facilities.

Instructions

Vaccine Storage

- Storage and transportation in **refrigerated (2-8°C) condition**
- **Do not freeze the vaccine** under any circumstance
- **Protect the vaccine from direct exposure to sunlight**

Who should receive the Vaccine

- Individuals who are 18 years of age and above
- Vaccination is recommended for persons with comorbidities that have been identified as increasing the risk of severe COVID-19, including obesity, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and diabetes.
- Pregnant women and those who are breastfeeding



Who should **NOT** receive Sinopharm Vaccine

- Individuals having **fever at the time of coming for vaccination** (Can be rescheduled after the illness is settled)
- Patients with **active COVID-19**
 - Those with mild COVID-19 can receive the vaccine once the isolation period complete.
 - Those with severe COVID-19 can receive the vaccine once they become stable
- Individuals on **short-term immunosuppressive medication** should wait for 28 day after the medication ends.
- Those **chronically immunosuppressed** may receive the vaccine, though efficacy may be lower
 - Those post-transplantation may receive the vaccine 3 months after transplantation
 - Those post chemotherapy may receive the vaccine 28 days after chemotherapy

Vaccine recipients of all age groups should continue to strictly observe all the precautionary measures necessary for protection against COVID-19 disease: use of face masks, social distancing, hand washing with soap and use of hand sanitizers.

Vaccine Administration

- Route of Administration: **Intra-muscular** intramuscular injection in the deltoid region of the upper arm.
 - Dose: **0.5ml**
 - Presentation: **Single dose vial**

Vaccine Dose

- **Two doses** should be administered
- The second dose should be given **28 days** after the first dose.

Steps of Administration

1. Wear mask and observe COVID-19 **SOPs**
2. **Greet** the client
3. Complete **verification** process in the National Immunization Management System (NIMS)
4. Ensure **consent** by stating “that you are receiving this COVID-19 vaccine because you have registered yourself into the system”
5. Expose site (**deltoid** of non-dominant arm) for administration
6. **Explain the procedure and inform** that some pain on giving injection, discomfort at the site of injection or fever after the injection, may happen



7. Take vaccine vial out of the vaccine carrier
8. Open the vial by removing plastic cover/cap
9. Take out **22G-25G 0.5ml** syringe and remove needle cap
10. Discard the cap in safety box
11. Insert the syringe needle through the top rubber pad of vaccine vial
12. Draw **0.5ml** of diluted vaccine from the vial
13. Inject intra muscularly at the site of injection at an angle of 90° (right angle) following “**No-touch technique**”
14. Dispose the syringe in the safety box
15. Complete entry in the **NIMS**
16. Send the client for observation area for **30 minutes**
17. After 30 minutes if no acute adverse events are experienced by the client, explain the next steps on follow up visit for second dose. **Report to health facility /1166 helpline** if any adverse event is experienced.
18. Get ready for next vaccination

Sinopharm Vaccine Waste Management

- Used vials and syringes must be **collected safely** by the vaccinator
- **Syringes may be disposed through environment friendly incinerators** where available
- The **vials and syringes may be disposed together in burial/burning pits**
- Pit must be closed with 50cm (half ft.) **soil layer** before the pit is completely filled
- The **vaccinator under supervision of the health facility in-charge** of the concerned health facility will ensure proper disposal of COVID-19 vaccination waste.
- **Daily waste generation and disposal record** must be maintained by the vaccinator

During vaccination, Do NOT

- Touch the rubber pad of vaccine vial (causes contamination and result in AEFI)
- Recap needle of syringes (can cause needle stick injuries)

Please refer to “Annexure A” checklist for covid-19 vaccine administration



Note: The above recommendations are being regularly reviewed by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and will be updated based on the international & national recommendations and best practices.

The Ministry acknowledges the contribution of Dr. Faisal Mahmood, Dr. Asad Ali, EPI Team and HSA/ HPSIU/ NIH team to compile these guidelines.

For more information, please contact:

HSA/ HPSIU/ NIH, PM National Health Complex, Islamabad

<http://covid.gov.pk/>

<http://nhsrc.gov.pk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NHSRCOfficial>

<http://www.hsa.edu.pk/>

<https://twitter.com/nhsrcofficial>

<https://www.nih.org.pk/>

<https://www.youtube.com/NHSRC-PK>



Annex-A

CHECKLIST FOR COVID-19 VACCINE ADMINISTRATION	
Client Name:	Age:
ID Card:	Gender:
Address:	
Staff name/Signatures	
1. Greet the Client	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Make sure that you and client are wearing face mask	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Complete the 2-step verification of client	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Ensure consent by stating that "you are receiving this COVID-19 vaccine because you registered yourself in the system"	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Prepare dose	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Explain the procedure and inform that some pain on giving injection, and discomfort or fever after the injection, can appear	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Administer injection	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Properly dispose the injection waste	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Send the client to observation section for 30 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. After 30 minutes, and with no acute AEFI, handover the letter of next appointment to the client	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Explain the next steps	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Respond to Qs if any, as the last step.	<input type="checkbox"/>