

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AGENCY FOR INTEGRATED CARE URGES SENIORS TO GET VACCINATED AND PROVIDES ASSISTANCE FOR THEM TO DO SO

Unvaccinated seniors are strongly encouraged to take a COVID-19 vaccine as Singapore transits towards a COVID-resilient nation. This will allow seniors to resume more activities safely, such as participating in activities for seniors or dining-in safely with their family and friends at hawker centres and coffee shops that are implementing vaccination differentiated safe management measures. Vaccinated seniors can now participate in activities organised by the People's Association to promote active ageing.

2. The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC)'s outreach arm for seniors, the Silver Generation Office (SGO), has been reaching out to seniors 60 years old and above to encourage them to get vaccinated. To date, SGO has attempted to engage more than 670,000 seniors since February 2021 to share information about the value and safety of COVID-19 vaccination, and to lend support to those who need assistance in getting vaccinated. AIC strongly encourages seniors who have yet to get vaccinated to do so soonest. We also urge all seniors who are eligible for the booster programme to step forward to receive their booster doses.

Assistance with vaccination

3. Seniors who want to get vaccinated but need assistance can get in touch with SGO. For seniors who have mobility issues or whose caregivers face challenges in bringing them for vaccination, SGO arranges for these seniors to be escorted to a nearby vaccination centre, or arranges for them to be vaccinated at home. SGO will

also check in with these seniors after their vaccination to ensure that they are feeling alright, and if they require any further assistance.

4. For seniors with underlying medical conditions, SGO coordinates with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to have their medical appointments brought forward so that they can consult their doctors as soon as possible to confirm on their suitability for vaccination. As vaccination against COVID-19 has progressed smoothly for millions of people globally, there are now hardly any medical conditions that prevent one from getting a COVID-19 vaccination, and it should be safe for almost all seniors to get one. SGO also partners with Singapore Health Corps to pair volunteer doctors with our staff during our outreach so that they could directly address seniors' concerns regarding vaccination.

5. Seniors who have completed their two-dose primary series of vaccination earlier are encouraged to take their booster shots when they receive an invitation from MOH. The primary series of the recommended COVID-19 vaccines provides good protection against severe diseases, but this could decrease over time. Hence, booster shots are needed to increase our seniors' level of protection against severe complications, and ensure that this higher level of protection is maintained for them over a longer period of time. Seniors aged 60 and above can also walk into any vaccination centres for their booster shot without any prior appointment, after they receive an SMS from MOH informing them to do so. Even if they have not received an SMS invitation from MOH, but it has been 6 months or more since their second dose, seniors can also just walk into any vaccination centre to get their booster shot.

6. The Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine is also now available under the National Vaccination Programme which means that it is available free like the mRNA vaccines that were approved earlier. Seniors who are medically ineligible for the mRNA vaccines will receive an SMS from MOH to book their appointments for Sinovac-CoronaVac, while seniors who are not medically ineligible for mRNA vaccines

but who still wish to take the Sinovac-CoronaVac vaccine instead of the mRNA vaccines can pre-register their interest on www.vaccine.gov.sg. Alternatively, seniors can walk into the vaccination centre at Raffles City Convention Centre (RCCC) without any prior appointment. The full list of locations offering Sinovac-CoronaVac can be found here: www.vaccine.gov.sg/locations.

Avoid crowded places and visit hospitals only if necessary

7. To minimise exposure to other persons infected by COVID-19, we also urge seniors to avoid crowded places and to visit hospitals only if necessary. If the seniors are unfortunately infected with COVID-19, with mild or no symptoms, they also need not rush to hospital but can self-isolate in the more familiar environment of their home for their own well-being. SGO supports seniors who test positive for COVID-19 and are on the Home Recovery Programme (HRP). Working closely with the Singapore Armed Forces and various agencies involved in the HRP, SGO checks in on seniors through phone calls and physical visits where necessary, arranges for meal deliveries and provides support with errands such as the purchase of toiletries or other essential items.

8. Seniors can reach out for assistance by calling AIC's Hotline at 1800-650-6060 or calling a satellite office listed on AIC's website [here](#). Alternatively, they can email enquiries@aic.sg or walk into an [AIC Link](#).

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Media contact and queries

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Connecting You
to Community Care

About the Agency for Integrated Care

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) aims to create a vibrant care community for people to live well and age gracefully. AIC coordinates and supports efforts in integrating care to achieve the best care outcomes for our clients. We reach out to caregivers and seniors with information on staying active and ageing well, and connect people to services they need. We support stakeholders in their efforts to raise the quality of care, and also work with health and social care partners to provide services for the ageing population. Our work in the community brings care services and information closer to those in need. For more about us, please visit www.aic.sg.