

## CIRCULAR NO. 19 REGISTRATION FOR COVID-19 VACCINATION



# Dear IEM Members,

The completion of phase one of the National Immunisation Programme, which involved immunizing 500,000 frontliners, particularly healthcare workers, is a stepping stone in achieving herd immunity. However, with the occurrence of numerous clusters, persistence of new cases detected being in the four-digits and existence of several Covid-19 variants in our midst, Malaysia hit the highest number of daily confirmed cases on 30 January 2021, with 5,728 confirmed cases recorded. In early May, the number of daily cases rose to the range of over 4,000 again.

Since the emergence of Covid-19, various efforts have been made around the world to develop the Covid-19 vaccine. Vaccines are one of the methods to control this pandemic and it is also one of the best ways to protect society from Covid-19. Malaysia has embarked on the journey to vaccinate the population since February 2021, but so far the response from the general public still leaves much to be desired.

As such, we would like to call upon IEM Members to register yourself and your dependents, disseminate the information and encourage those eligible around you to register as soon as possible.

### **Benefits of Vaccination**

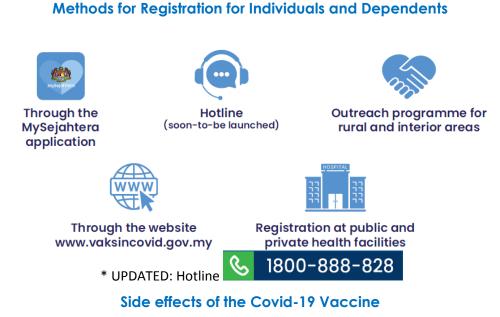
Vaccination protects not only the vaccinated persons, it ensures we do not contract the disease and pass on to surrounding people who are vulnerable, thus reducing the risk of diseases spreading among family members, colleagues, schoolmates, friends, neighbours and others in the community.

While there is still a low possibility of vaccinated persons getting infected, however those do get infected by Covid-19 after vaccination are experiencing very mild symptoms. Were they not vaccinated, they would have not only experienced much severe symptoms, the infection could have caused a fatal effect.

#### Vaccination Can Protect You from Covid-19

- Covid-19 may cause serious, lifethreatening complications. Once a person is infected, there is a high chance of him spreading it to friends, family members, and others around him.
- ✓ The wearing of masks and physical distancing help reduce the chance of being exposed to the Coronavirus, but these measures are insufficient.
- ✓ Stopping the pandemic requires us utilizing all the instruments available.
- ✓ Vaccine will strengthen one's immune system and enable it to fight the Coronavirus.
- ✓ While Covid-19 vaccines were developed in a short span of time, strict processes and procedures remain in place to ensure their safety.

- ✓ All vaccines currently administered in Malaysia have been shown to be safe and effective at preventing Covid-19.
- All vaccines currently evaluated by the Government will be approved only if they are proven effective in reducing the probability of getting Covid-19 substantially.
- ✓ A growing body of evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people are less likely to be infected, and less likely to spread the Coronavirus.
- ✓ Based on the clinical trials, experts believe that vaccination helps to keep one from getting seriously ill in the unlikely case of contracting Covid-19 after vaccination.
- ✓ With a higher percentage of the population getting vaccinated, we will be able to protect the more vulnerable segment of the society, such as senior citizens and those with chronic diseases from getting infected.

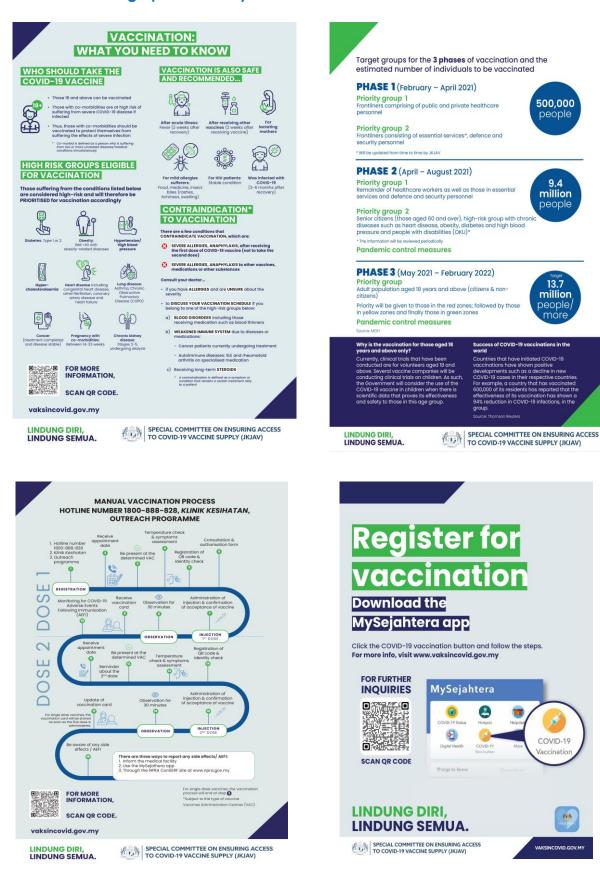


#### The side effects of the Covid-19 vaccine that have been reported are *mild and temporary*. The most commonly reported side effects are:

- Pain/swelling/ redness at the injection site
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Chills
- Joint pain

- Fever
- Nausea
- Feeling unwell
- Swelling of the lymph nodes
- Other side effects that may be reported from time to time

#### Infographics- What you should know on Covid-19 Vaccine



IEM will continue to keep our members updated on latest announcements from the government, ministries or government agencies related or affecting the engineering industry. Do keep a look out for our email blast or visit the IEM website at www.myiem.org.my under the tab 'RELATED TO ENGINEERING' or join our Telegram Channel to receive faster updates.

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IEM had also launched our very own mobile app IEMGo on 15 April 2021 to improve communication with members. You may download IEMGo from the following platforms:









We hope that all our members would remain safe and healthy during this challenging time. We will keep you updated on any further information promptly.

Thank you.

#mylEMstaysafe
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Special Committee on COVID-19 The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia 4th May 2021

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