



**Hong Kong College of Paediatricians issues the following statement regarding vaccination of children and adolescents against SARS-CoV-2.**

The College welcomes the latest recommendation of the Advisory Panel on COVID-19 Vaccines that children from the age of 3 years to 17 years can receive CoronaVac vaccine.

Children under the age of 18 years old remain a vulnerable group to COVID-19. Outbreak of the recent omicron variant in children and youngsters will foreseeably have a serious impact on their physical and psychological development. Current evidence suggests that vaccination offers benefits that outweigh its potential risks. Vaccination of high risk people and vulnerable groups should be the top priority of the government. Vaccination of our children and young people is an integral part of this strategy.

The College strongly supports the early implementation of COVID-19 vaccination of children and adolescents in Hong Kong according to the recommendations of the Advisory Panel.

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