

# PREGNANT WOMEN RELIEVED TO GET JABS

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**T**HE massive drive to vaccinate pregnant women against Covid-19 continued yesterday with some 2,600 of them getting the jab at the Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre (SPCC) vaccination centre (PPV).

The SPCC and Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) PPV are administering jabs only to pregnant women.

The government's decision to prioritise pregnant women for vaccination is in line with the National Recovery Plan target to achieve herd immunity as soon as possible.

SPCC PPV head Angela Lee said the vaccination process was smooth yesterday and the turnout was good.

"The turnout was good, but we had to defer some people due to medical reasons, as some had exceeded the recommended gestation period of pregnancy. Under the policy, vaccination is recommended (for pregnant women) between week 14 and week 33 (of pregnancy).

"For today's (yesterday's) programme, we specially arranged for six obstetricians and gynaecologists who are specialists from various hospitals under the Sunway Healthcare Group to be stationed at the observation area specially for pregnant mums in case they have any concerns, problems or questions," she told the *New Straits Times*.

On Saturday, Covid-19 National Immunisation Programme (NIP)



Sim Lai Ly



Nur Farhani Baharudin



Fatm Fathiah Azman



Angela Lee

Coordinating Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said about 6,000 pregnant women were scheduled to receive the first dose of vaccine at the SPCC and MITEC PPV at the weekend.

A total of 109,607 pregnant women have registered for vaccination through the MySejahtera application up to Friday.

Vaccine recipient Noor Syahida Shahidan, 29, said it was a good approach to prioritise pregnant women for vaccination as recently, there were cases of pregnant women dying of Covid-19 due to severe symptoms.

"Hopefully, by getting vacci-

nated we can reduce severe illness among pregnant mothers.

"I registered on June 2 and received my appointment date on June 23. I felt the

urgency to get vaccinated to protect my baby and me because last month one of my colleagues tested positive (for Covid-19) and we all needed to be quarantined," said the lawyer, who is 33 weeks pregnant.

Noor Syahida, who is expecting her first child, said the process at the SPCC PPV was effective and systematic.

"It was convenient. The volunteers were helpful and the waiting time was not too long.

"I have no symptoms right now. So far so good."

Accountant Sim Lai Ly, 34, said she was happy that pregnant women were being given the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

"I feel that my baby and I are better protected now after the vaccination.

"I have sought my doctor's views on vaccination for pregnant woman. I am confident about the safety of the vaccine because it is important to protect myself, my baby and my family members."

Civil officer Fatm Fathiah Azman, 32, said she was satisfied with the facilities at the SPCC PPV, particularly during the consultation where the doctor on duty explained the possible side effects after the inoculation.

"The doctors gave us clear guidelines and steps that needed to be taken if one experienced side effects. Among them is to take a

## PREGNANT WOMEN ARE PRIORITY COVID-19 VACCINE RECIPIENTS

- Pregnant women are considered a **high-risk group** for Covid-19 infection
- They are encouraged to **register for vaccination**
- Appointments will be given in stages to those who **have registered and updated their pregnancy status on the MySejahtera application**
- Priority will depend on the **estimated date of delivery**



UPDATED ADVISORY FOR PREGNANT WOMEN (JUNE 25)

## COVID-19 VACCINES FOR PREGNANT AND LACTATING MOTHERS

	Pregnant women	Lactating mothers
<b>Pfizer</b>	Suitable for pregnant women between 14 and 33 weeks of pregnancy	Suitable to be vaccinated
<b>AstraZeneca</b>	Suitable for pregnant women between 14 and 33 weeks of pregnancy	Suitable to be vaccinated
<b>Sinovac</b>	Suitable for pregnant women between 14 and 33 weeks of pregnancy	Suitable to be vaccinated

- For gestation beyond 33 weeks, **vaccination may be possible after consultation with a doctor**

- Please consult a doctor if you have any concerns

- The public will be informed about **updates on vaccines' suitability from time to time**



Some 2,600 pregnant women received vaccines at the Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIX BY HAZREEN MOHAMAD



An expectant mother posing for a picture after getting vaccinated at the Sunway Convention Centre vaccination centre in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.



Noor Syahida Shahidan

specific medicine and have enough rest," said Fatm Fathiah, who is 33 weeks pregnant.

Teacher Nur Farhani Baharudin, 31, said she found the vaccination experience comfortable despite having to wait about an hour to complete the process, from registration to vaccination.

"I was completely unaware of

how long it took because I was very comfortable with the staff, who helped a lot. Soothing music was played to calm us down.

"I am confident about getting vaccinated because I have read up on the matter. I hope the NIP can be ramped up so that the Movement Control Order can be lifted soon," she said.