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# Sabah first in line to get CanSino vaccine next month

By [Paul Mu](#) - July 23, 2021 @ 4:11pm



Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor (centre) with Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Masidi Manjun and Community Development (left) and People's Wellbeing Minister Shahelmey Yahya during a virtual meeting with Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin. - Pic courtesy of Sabah CM Department

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah will be given priority when the three million CanSino single dose vaccine arrive in Malaysia next month.

Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor said this was the assurance given by Khairy Jamaluddin, who is coordinating minister for the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme (NIP) in their virtual meeting here today.

According to Hajiji, Khairy told him that the first shipment of the CanSino vaccine will be reserved for Sabah. The state, he added, would also be given the option to take the Johnson & Johnson single-dose vaccine.

The chief minister had earlier called for vaccine supply to Sabah to be sped up in order to meet its 60 per cent vaccination target by October and attain herd immunity by year-end.

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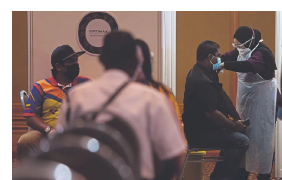
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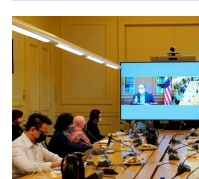


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"It is also crucial that we reach out to the communities in the interiors and far-flung islands whose mobility is hampered by rough terrain and distance.

"We have opened up 177 vaccine administration centres (PPV) throughout the state to date. Together with mobile outreach facilities and the Army's Medic Vaccination programme, we are on track to get more people vaccinated," said Hajiji.

He also expressed appreciation to the federal government and Khairy's gesture for extending cooperation to Sabah's vaccination programme amid vaccine supply constraints.

Meanwhile, Sabah Health director Dr Rose Nani Mudin said the state's first Integrated vaccine administration centre (PPV Integrasi) will kick off next week at the Sabah International Convention Centre (SICC).

PPV Integrasi will roll out free vaccines and allow private hospitals to assist in speeding up the vaccination process, she said.

"This will take the load off the overwhelmed public hospitals," she added.

Also present at the virtual meeting were Housing and Local Government Minister cum Sabah Covid-19 spokesperson, Datuk Seri Masidi Manjun; Community Development and People's Wellbeing Minister Shahelmey Yahya and State Secretary Datuk Seri Safar Untong.

With Khairy were Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Public Health Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood and Army Deputy Chief Lieutenant-General Datuk Mohammad Ab Rahman.

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