



## COVID-19 Vaccination Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – 21 April 2022

### 1. How can I get the vaccine from PDO?

The vaccination campaign for first and second dose at PDO was ended on 30 September, and for booster dose was ended on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022. After which booster dose will be given for the rotators ONLY until Tuesday (31 May). Please coordinate earlier with Hamed Alawi (MCN11C) via email: [Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om](mailto:Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om).

### 2. How can I book an appointment for vaccination dose after the end of the campaign on 30 March 2022?

COVID-19 vaccination will not be available at PDO Medical Centre after 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Therefore, we advise you to visit nearest MoH Health Centre or Vaccination Centre.

### 3. Are all employees eligible to get the vaccine?

All employees were eligible to get the vaccine at PDO MAF Medical Centre and Interior locations. You will not be eligible if:

1. You are currently a positive case of COVID-19 and in the quarantine period
2. You had previously tested positive for COVID-19 or have evidence of exposure to COVID-19 virus and have not yet completed 2 weeks since full recovery.

### 4. Will I still need a vaccine if I had previously tested for COVID-19 and how many doses?

Yes, you will provided that you had completed 2 weeks since full recovery. Two doses and one booster dose will be provided for those who had tested positive (including those who have been in contact with positive cases or suspected cases) regardless of your infected time. Viral or serological testing prior vaccination is not recommended.



**5. Once I've had the second dose of the vaccine, when can I expect to receive the booster or third dose?**

You can expect to receive the booster and third dose 3 months after getting the second dose.

**6. If I took the first dose of the vaccine then I got the infection, can I take the second dose and when?**

Yes, it can be given at the scheduled date if the patient is asymptomatic (2 weeks after test results). For symptomatic patients who are on treatment, the second dose can be given 2 weeks after full recovery. This also will be applicable for booster and third dose.

**7. If I am an Interior-based employee, will I have to travel to the MAF Medical Centre to get the vaccine or will it be offered in the Interior?**

Vaccination will be given in medical centres at the Interior when conditions allow. Interior employees on rest days can get booster dose 3 months after getting second dose from the MAF Medical Centre during working days as per announcement in the corporate communication. Note: COVID-19 vaccination will not be available at PDO Medical Centre after 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022, except for the rotators and it will be ended on 31 May 2022.

**8. Should I get the vaccine if I am breastfeeding?**

Yes, if you are among the target groups and have no other contraindications to vaccination. It is not recommended to stop breastfeeding when taking the vaccine.

**9. Can I get vaccinated if I am pregnant?**

Pregnant women at risk of COVID-19 disease can receive the vaccination at any stage of the pregnancy.

**10. Can the vaccine be given to women planning to become pregnant?**

Yes, if they are among the target groups and have no other contraindications to vaccination. There is no need to leave any time between taking the vaccine and getting pregnant.



### **11. Whom should I contact if I have any medical enquiries related covid-19 vaccination?**

Please notify Hamed Alawi (MCN11C) via email: [Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om](mailto:Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om) or send an e-mail to [MedicalCommunications@pdo.co.om](mailto:MedicalCommunications@pdo.co.om).

### **12. What should I do if I am on authorised unpaid or maternity leave?**

You are still eligible to get the vaccine, provided that you meet the conditions set out above, and should book your slot through vaccination appointment online tool.

### **13. Which type of vaccine is PDO clinic providing?**

The main vaccine was provided by PDO is Pfizer. AstraZeneca was also provided initially as well for those who have already received an AstraZeneca first dose from PDO medical center. A booster or third dose of Pfizer-BioNTech will be given regardless of the type of vaccine you have previously received.

### **14. Will the vaccine be offered to eligible dependents of PDO employees?**

The last day for employees' spouses to receive the vaccination from PDO MAF clinic was 12 August 2021. Family members are advised to approach MOH approved health and vaccination centres. We advise you to follow official publications on vaccination from the MOH accounts on social media as follows:

- Twitter, Instagram and YouTube: Omanimoh
- Facebook: OmanHealth
- MOH website: [www.moh.gov.om](http://www.moh.gov.om)
- MOH call center: 24441999

### **15. Will the vaccine be offered to employee children or any other family members?**

PDO will not support the vaccination of employee children and other family members. However, the vaccine is now available in many private medical institutions or through government health institutions. Please note that PDO will not reimburse the cost of vaccination.



**16. Will the vaccine be offered to PDO pensioners?**

PDO pensioners and their spouses (including spouses of pensioners who have passed away) were offered the vaccine in many vaccination phases and the last date was 12 August 2021.

**17. Will PDO be providing the vaccine to contractors?**

No. Contractors should approach the MOH or OPAL to obtain the vaccine for their staff.

**18. Will PDO reimburse the cost of the vaccine for staff who purchase it externally through private clinics or from their base country?**

No, PDO will not reimburse the cost of the vaccine in those circumstances.

**19. Is there any exemption from the government quarantine on return to Oman for expatriate employees returning from overseas who have received both the first and second vaccine shots?**

Please refer to the latest supreme committee and **CAA Circular** for further updated details for your entry to Oman, including updates to PCR testing, vaccination and quarantine requirements.

**20. Is there any support for expatriate employees who wish to take the vaccine while in the base country?**

It is expected that expatriate employees access vaccines locally and in line with the government's vaccine programme. Expatriate employees who choose to travel to their base country to obtain their vaccines will not be granted any additional leave to accommodate travel nor be reimbursed the cost of the vaccine.

**21. Will the PDO medical team provide the booster dose if I receive the second dose in my base country?**

**Vaccine registered in Oman:** Yes. If a person received the second dose of a vaccine registered in Oman in another country, the booster or third dose of Pfizer-BioNTech will be given, however no vaccination will be given after 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022.



## 22. I am set for final departure shortly. Will PDO provide the booster dose of the vaccine?

Yes, PDO will still offer you the booster dose of the vaccine as per your scheduled date and time, however no vaccination will be given after 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## 23. Will there be any implications for refusing to receive the vaccine?

In line with the latest Supreme Committee requirements for vaccination of staff attending the workplace, please note that going forward all staff and contractors coming to the Coastal or interior must receive two dose of vaccine.

## 24. Can other vaccines be given before or after doses of COVID-19 vaccines?

Yes. Other vaccines can be administered at least 2 weeks before or after the dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. (Example: The seasonal flu vaccine dose may be administered at least 2 weeks before or 2 weeks after any dose of COVID-19 vaccination).

## 25. What can I do if my vaccination certificate or first or second or booster dose are not showing in the Tarassud+ app or if I face any other problems with the app?

First try to delete the Tarassud+ app and reinstall. If the problem still persists, then you have to write an email to Hamed Alawi (MCN11C): [Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om](mailto:Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om), stating what the problem is and providing the following information:

- Full name and ID number
- Date of Birth
- Registered mobile number
- Dates of taking first and second dose.

**Note:** In the updated Tarassud+ app, you can add now your passport number and view other's vaccination certificate through the link case option. We urge you to download your vaccination certificate to your phone or print it in advance, to avoid any technical issues with accessing the same through the app.

The Medical team should only be contacted for urgent issues and during normal working hours.



## 26. What vaccines are available and approved by the Sultanate of Oman? What's the difference between the two?

Vaccines <b>approved</b> by the Sultanate: Two doses with minimum of 14 days interval	Vaccines <b>approved</b> in the Sultanate: One dose vaccine
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. AstraZeneca ( Vaxzevria, Covishield)</li><li>2. Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty)</li><li>3. Moderna (Spikevax or Takeda Japan)</li><li>4. Sinopharm (Beijing) (Covilo)</li><li>5. Sinovac (CoronaVac)</li><li>6. Bharat Biotech (Covaxin)</li><li>7. CanSinoBio (Convidecia)</li><li>8. Novavax (Nuvaxovid) (Covovax)</li><li>9. Gamaleya Research Institute (Sputnik V)</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Johnson &amp; Johnson ( Ad26.CO2.S)</li><li>2. Sputnik Lite</li></ol>
<b>Notice:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This list is subject to update from time to time as recommended by international organisations</li></ul>	

## 27. May I enter the Sultanate if I took one or two doses of a vaccine that is not approved or not available in the Sultanate?

Yes. For more information, please consult Hamed Alawi (MCN11C) via email:  
[Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om](mailto:Hamed.HA.Alawi@pdo.co.om).

**Note:** This is subject to the Supreme Committee decisions, so we urge you to keep following the new updates regularly.

## 28. If I took a first dose of an approved vaccine outside the Sultanate, can I receive the second dose from another approved vaccine?

Recent studies have shown that this can only be applied to those who have taken AstraZeneca and Moderna vaccine as a first dose can receive Pfizer as the second dose or third dose or booster dose. The opposite is not allowed.



### **29. Do I need a booster or third dose of COVID-19 Vaccine?**

Aligned with supreme committee and MoH, a booster of Pfizer-BioNTech was given for those who have completed 3 months from second dose regardless of age (18 years and above). Also, those with immunocompromised diseases and under treatment, a clearance certificate has to be obtained from the treating doctor indicating that they are fit to take booster dose.

### **30. What I need to do if I was in contact with positive case of COVID-19 household?**

No special action is required when you were in contact with positive case of COVID-19 household. As precautionary measures, the employee should refrain from working in PDO offices for 72 hours, followed by PCR test. If tested negative, then PDO medical advice and clearance must be obtained to get back to work from PDO offices.

**Note:** each case will be evaluated individually based on the extent of the exposure and medical experience judgment.