

ANVISA APPROVES EMERGENCY USE OF THE VACCINE AGAINST COVID-19

January 2021

On Sunday, January 17, 2021, the board of the National Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA), unanimously approved the emergency use of 6 million doses of CoronaVac, developed by the Chinese pharmaceutical company Sinovac, in partnership with Butantan Institute, and 2 million doses of the AstraZeneca/Oxford University vaccine.

According to information released by the Ministry of Health, vaccination will get started on January 18, 2021, with the doses distributed among Brazilian states, and made available by SUS - Brazilian Public Healthcare System - relying on subsidies from federal and state governments for its administration.

It is important to underscore that at this first moment, the national immunization plan of the government, includes only the priority groups for vaccination, as follows:



- Healthcare workers;
- Elderly (over 60 years old);
- Indigenous people;
- People with comorbidities;
- Teachers (from preschool to university)
- Security and rescue force professionals;
- Penitentiary system employees;
- Traditional riverside communities;
- Quilombolas (community that resisted slavery);
- Public transport workers;
- Homeless people;
- Population deprived of liberty.

Vaccination for the following groups must follow four stages:

First phase: health workers; people aged 75 and over; institutionalized people aged 60 and over; indigenous population in demarcated native reservations; traditional riverside population and communities.

Second phase: people from 60 to 74 years old.

Third phase: people with comorbidities.

Fourth phase: teachers; security and rescue force professionals and the penitentiary system employees.

See below, the schedule for the immunization program in the state of São Paulo:

TARGET AUDIENCE	1st DOSE	2nd DOSE
HEALTH WORKERS, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND QUILOMBOLAS	JAN 25th	FEB 15th
75 YEARS OLD AND	FEB 08th	MAR 01st
70 TO 74 YEARS OLD	FEB 15th	MAR 08th
65 TO 69 YEARS OLD	FEB 22nd	MAR 15th
60 TO 64 YEARS OLD	MAR 01st	MAR 22nd

*Period of 21 days between the 1st and 2nd dose

The new vaccines do not guarantee that the patient will not have Covid-19, however, it reduces the chance of infection and also the severity of the disease in relation to people who have not received doses of the vaccine.

Important!

We emphasize that there is still no forecast as to when private clinics will be able to buy batches of vaccine against Covid-19 that have been approved in Brazil. National and international health agencies highly recommend that all doses produced by laboratories in this first moment be directed to governments in order to ensure that groups of risk can be immunized urgently.

Stay tuned to the next **Sciath News** for more information.

Sciath Team.