

COVID-19 VACCINATION – RUSSIA

February, 2021

As of today, two vaccines are registered in Russia for preventing the spread of the new COVID-19 infection among adults 18 years of older and building immunity against SARS-CoV-2:

1/ Gam-COVID-Vac (trade-named Sputnik V), a viral two-vector vaccine registered by the Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology on 11.08.2020;

2/ EpiVacCorona, a peptide vaccine registered on 13.10.2020 by the Novosibirsk-based Vector State Research Center for Virology and Biotechnology.

The 3rd vaccine being developed by Vaccine Research Institute M.P. Chumakova is currently undergoing registration and is expected to be released in March 2021.

Detailed description of all vaccines mentioned above is given in Annex to this memo.

Currently, only Gam-COVID-Vac (or Sputnik V) is available for mass vaccination.

The list of categories of individuals entitled to a vaccination appointment is being extended on ongoing basis. New information on vaccination is published daily, that is why it is important to check official sources at the time of decision-making.

How to get an appointment for vaccination?

Moscow residents attached to Moscow-based out-patient clinics can get on appointment directly via their member area at www.mos.ru, at the Gosuslugi Moskvyy portal, via the Moya Moskva mobile app, or via the EMIAS.INFO mobile app.

Those who are not attached to any out-patient clinics can also get on appointment for vaccination via their member area at mos.ru by choosing the district that they find convenient and calling the phone number that is listed for appointment purposes at the portal.

In Moscow, vaccination against COVID-19 provided by State Health System is available at 100 vaccination points on the premises of local outpatient clinics. They are open daily from 8.00 to 20.00.

In addition, the vaccine is offered by **private clinics**. Vaccination points are established on the premises of 42 private medical facilities.

The list of clinics continues to expand as they obtain vaccination permits. The actual vaccine is provided by private clinics for free, but one has to pay for specialist examination and vaccine administration.

In **St. Petersburg**, appointment for vaccination against the coronavirus infection can be asked by calling the telephone numbers published on the official website of the St. Petersburg Healthcare Committee.

Residents of **other regions** can ask for a vaccination appointment by calling the common telephone number 122. Further on it will be possible via the

member area on the Gosuslugi portal. More detailed information is available on official websites of each region's Healthcare Ministries.

Counter-indications for Gam-COVID-Vac (Sputnik V):

- Hypersensitivity to any component of the specific vaccine or a vaccine containing the some components;
- Personal history of severe allergic reactions;
- Acute infectious and non-infectious conditions;
- Exacerbation of chronic diseases (vaccination shall be performed 2-4 weeks after recuperation or remission);
- In case of light ARVI or acute intestine infections vaccination is allowed after the body temperature gets back to normal;
- Pregnancy and lactation; age below 18 years (due to lack of efficacy and safety data);

Counter-indications for administering Component 2 are severe post-vaccination complications (including severe generalized allergic reactions, seizure disorders, body temperature above 40 °C) from administration of Component 1.

How is vaccination performed?

Vaccination with Sputnik V has two stages.

Stage 1 includes:

- mandatory examination by a therapist;
- administration of the vaccine's first component (provided there are no counter-indications).

Stage 2 (21 days after the first stage) includes:

- mandatory examination by a therapist;
- administration of the vaccine's second component (provided there are no counter-indications)

Please be aware that it is recommended to get a PCR test (smear) done before getting the vaccine (not earlier than 3 days) to make sure there is no RNA of the virus in your body. In addition, it is advised to be tested for to SARs CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies (anti-RBD IgG) and consult with a doctor on the basis of its results, but not before 1.5 months after the second stage of the vaccination.

The persons that have taken the vaccine are issued a respective certificate.