

COVID-19 NATIONAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

SARAWAK BEGINS TEEN VACCINATION

State focusing on
those aged 16 and
17, and those with
comorbidities first

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SARAWAK kicked off its Covid-19 Immunisation programme for teenagers yesterday, beginning with those aged 16 and 17.

Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg said the state would also be vaccinating those aged between 12 and 15 with comorbidities, before proceeding with inoculating the rest of the teenage population.

"The programme started today (yesterday), and will be conducted in stages. We are now focusing on two categories, those aged 16 and 17, and those aged 12 to 15 but with comorbidities," he said.

"We want to ensure those aged 16 and 17 have completed both doses when school reopens on Oct 3."

Abang Johari said this at a press conference after the launch of the Covid-19 vaccination programme for those under 18 at the Kampung Telaga Air Health Clinic here yesterday.

He said Sarawak had 289,000 individuals below 18, which was about 10 per cent of the state's total population.

Of the total, 96,400 are those aged 16 and 17, while the rest are between 12 and 15.

He said the teenagers will be vaccinated at vaccination centres, health clinics and schools identified by the Health Ministry and the Sarawak Disaster Management Committee.

He said a Covid-19 Immunisation Outreach Programme would be conducted in rural areas, involving 9,334 students from 16 schools in Kapit and 207 students from two schools in Miri.

He also assured that students who were still in the village and those who were not schooling anymore would not be left behind.

Abang Johari said the authorities will make the arrangements to ensure they were given the Covid-19 vaccine as well.

It is hoped that the parents and



Teenagers aged 16 and 17 getting the Covid-19 vaccine at the Kampung Telaga Air Health Clinic in Kuching yesterday.

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family members would support their children and the vaccination programme.

He said up to Monday, 88.9 per cent of the eligible adult population in the state had received both doses of the Covid-19 vaccine.