

**Vaccinations are at a more advanced stage compared to the initial plan – The Vaccination Portal opens for ages 18-21**

**Schedule for arranging appointments for the period 15-22 May**

With the aim of vaccinating the largest possible percentage of the population, the implementation of the National Vaccination Plan against COVID-19 continues intensively. By 13 May, **42.5 % (314,163 people) were vaccinated with the 1st dose of the vaccine and 13.3 % of the population (98,605 people) have completed their vaccination.** The fact that a total of **412,768 vaccinations were administered until yesterday, i.e. 46.9 doses per 100 inhabitants, places Cyprus in 3rd position among the EU Member States.**

Having achieved the initial target of scheduling appointments and vaccinating people aged 45 or older by the beginning of May, the process of offering at least once the possibility to people aged 18 or older to arrange appointments will be completed next week. Consequently, in the next period, people of older age groups, who have not scheduled appointments, will be given the opportunity to do so with the available vaccines.

The schedule for the opening of the Vaccination Portal for the period 15-22 May is as follows:

<b>Ages</b>	<b>Priority date at the Vaccination Portal</b>
50-54	Saturday, 15 May, 7:30 in the morning until 5:30 in the afternoon
55-60	Sunday, 16 May, 7:30 in the morning until 5:30 in the afternoon
18-21 *	Monday, 17 May, 7:30 in the morning until Tuesday, 18 May, 5:30 in the afternoon
61-65	Wednesday, 19 May, 7:30 in the morning until Thursday, 20 May, 5:30 in the afternoon
46-49	Friday, 21 May, 7:30 in the morning until Saturday, 22 May, 5:30 in the afternoon

**\*Note: The Vaccination Portal will be open in June specifically for persons attending academic institutions abroad on a date to be announced in due time.**

Therefore, students are requested not to schedule appointments if they will not be able to use them due to their absence abroad, as there will be no possibility of rescheduling.

It is also noted that the weekend schedule is amended and the Vaccination Portal will open on May 15 for the ages of 50-54 and on May 16 for the ages 55-60. Vaccinations will be carried out with all available vaccines in Vaccination Centres island wide. Furthermore, personal doctors who showed interest, continue to administer the AstraZeneca vaccine to beneficiaries aged 20 years old and over, in their respective clinics.

The results of the vaccinations are visible in epidemiological indicators as well. Based on the last national report there is the downward trend recorded in both the number of positive cases, in the cumulative effect and in the positive rate, especially in the ages with a high vaccination coverage rate. There is also a decrease in the number hospital admissions of patients with COVID, which reduces the burden on the Health System.

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