

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**SINOVAC COVID-19 VACCINE SAFE FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS, AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE MARKET**

**SHAH ALAM, 4 OCTOBER, 2021** – Parents are assured that Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for children and adolescents is safe with more than 63 million doses have been administered to the population aged 12-17 years in China.

The Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) analysis of 63 million vaccination suggests that Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine has an overall good safety profile amongst the children population and the data collected were mainly routine injection site events with normal symptoms such as dizziness and nausea, which are very mild in nature.

Health Director-General Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah recently announced that the Drug Control Authority has approved the use of Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for children and adolescents.

Pharmaniaga Berhad (Pharmaniaga) Group Managing Director, Datuk Zulkarnain Md Eusope said the vaccine has been widely administered to the younger population between 12 and 17 years old in China and to date, there is no record on any safety risk information of AEFI related to the vaccination.

"We acknowledge the concern by parents on the effectiveness and the side effects of the vaccine and we assure you that based on the data of more than 63 million doses administered in China, it's proven to be effective in protecting the children and adolescents from the virus.

"Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine is developed using inactivated virus which is a well-established technology of more than 40-years that is also being used commonly in many types of vaccine currently available in the market including for polio, Hepatitis A and rabies," he said.

Datuk Zulkarnain added that the vaccine will be made available at selected private hospitals and clinics very soon as an option for parents who wish to have Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for their children.

"We hope with this effort, much-awaited education sector could see normalisation, especially within the secondary school children.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MEDIA RELEASE

"With China moving to vaccinate children 3-11 years of age, we will apply approval for these ages once enough safety data are made available to allow normalisation of pre and primary school sectors," added Datuk Zulkarnain.

For more inquiries to obtain Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for children and adolescents, please email to [ASKME@pharmaniaga.com](mailto:ASKME@pharmaniaga.com).

-END-

### **About Pharmaniaga Berhad**

Pharmaniaga is the leading pharmaceutical company of Boustead Holdings Berhad Group of Companies, which together with the Armed Forces Fund Board, are the major shareholders of the Company. Listed on the Main Board of Bursa Malaysia, Pharmaniaga's core businesses are generic pharmaceuticals manufacturing; research and development; marketing and sales; warehousing and distribution of pharmaceutical and medical products; supply, trading and installation of medical and hospital equipment as well as community pharmacy.

With a vision to be the premier Malaysian pharmaceutical company, Pharmaniaga is guided by its philosophy of 'Do It Right Always' and is empowered by its motto of Passion for Patients. Strengthened by nine manufacturing plants, nationwide logistics and distribution in Malaysia and Indonesia as well as products registered in 15 countries, Pharmaniaga Group is positioned to be a regional player in the international pharmaceutical arena.

### **Forward-looking statements**

This release may contain certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial conditions, results of operations and business of the Group and certain plans and objectives of Pharmaniaga Berhad with respect to these items. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will occur in the future and there are many factors that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements.

**Issued for Pharmaniaga Group by Corporate Communications Department, Pharmaniaga Berhad. For media enquiries, please contact Dato' Zuhri Iskandar Kamarzaman, Corporate Services Deputy Director of Pharmaniaga Berhad at 03-3342 999 ext 434 or by email [zuhri@pharmaniaga.com](mailto:zuhri@pharmaniaga.com).**