



HKCOG advice on Covid-19 vaccination in pregnant and lactating women (interim; updated on 31 Jan 2021)

1. Below is a summary of the scientific data on Covid-19 vaccines during pregnancy or lactation.
 - Non-clinical studies did not indicate any safety concern to pregnancy or lactation.
 - The previous clinical trials of the Covid-19 vaccines did not include pregnant or lactating women. Hence, its safety in pregnancy and lactating women has not been established yet.
2. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (ACOG) recommends Covid-19 vaccination during pregnancy and lactation based on the lack of safety concern from the non-clinical studies (<https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice-advisory/articles/2020/12/vaccinating-pregnant-and-lactating-patients-against-covid-19>).
3. The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) and the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) in the UK so far does not recommend routine Covid-19 vaccination during pregnancy, based on the insufficient clinical data on its safety. However, for those women who are at high-risk of developing severe complications from Covid-19, they can discuss the option of vaccination with their obstetricians/doctors. For breastfeeding women, the RCOG and JCVI advise vaccination (<https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/news/updated-advice-on-covid-19-vaccination-in-pregnancy-and-women-who-are-breastfeeding/>).
4. The HKCOG has noted the difference in opinion between the experts from UK and USA. The current situation of Covid-19 pandemic in Hong Kong is also very different from those in the UK or USA. The stand of the HKCOG at present is:
 - a. In principle HKCOG supports Covid-19 vaccination as a preventive measure, but does not recommend routine Covid-19 vaccination in pregnant women due to the lack of adequate clinical data on its safety in pregnancy.
 - b. For those pregnant women who might be at high-risk of developing severe complications due to their underlying medical conditions, they should discuss with their obstetricians on the pros and cons of the vaccination.
5. The HKCOG has set up an expert committee to monitor the progress and give update advice regularly.