Health advice for persons with prior COVID-19 infection

13/01/2022

- For recovered patients of COVID-19, although some of them may have prolonged viral RNA shedding, the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (SCEZD) under the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) agreed that current evidence does not support correlation of prolonged viral RNA shedding with infectivity.

- Nonetheless, it is possible that a person who recovered from COVID-19 be re-infected and become infective.

Therefore, persons recovered from COVID-19 should undergo virus testing as necessary in the same ways as those who have never been infected with COVID-19, including:
  - when subject to compulsory testing notice
  - when subject to regular testing for targeting groups
  - if they experience COVID-19 symptoms or in doubt

- If a sample tests positive, the CHP will perform epidemiological investigations and implement relevant control measures deemed necessary.

- Moreover, for persons recovered from COVID-19 infection:
  - Please refer to “Factsheet on COVID-19 Vaccination for Persons with Prior COVID-19 Infection”
  - Sinovac and Comirnaty(BioNTech) vaccines do not contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. These vaccines cannot make you sick with COVID-19. They are given intramuscularly and very unlikely will affect the result of your nucleic acid or antigen tests for COVID-19 in respiratory samples, which are used to see if you have a current infection.