

## SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT NATIONAL COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE (NACOVERC) FREETOWN

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Freetown 27th December, 2021

## SUPPRESSING THE RISING COVID-19 CASE LOADS

NaCOVERC is once again drawing the attention of the public to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases. The increasing case levels are occurring not only in Sierra Leone but all across the world, partly driven by the Omicron variant which has proven to be highly transmissible.

Our national posture in response to the case surge (but generally to the pandemic) is our sustained commitment to:

- Testing all passengers (incoming and outgoing), as well as testing in our local communities
- Isolating and managing laboratory confirmed cases
- Maintaining case surveillance
- Conducting genomic sequencing to identify any variants of concern
- Intensifying vaccination of all persons 18 years and over

Additionally, Pfizer vaccines can now be administered to children between 12-17 years; and booster shots given after 6 months of second dose to priority groups like health workers, persons 60 years+ and people with co-morbidities.

Our public health protocols are still in force, including the use of face masks in public places and transport, hand hygiene, social distancing, vaccine requirements for public buildings; sports; bars, restaurants, cinemas, night clubs and hotels/guest houses, and educational institutions.

NaCOVERC and the MoHS, together with partners, remain committed to suppressing the pandemic, and help our nation avoid its enormous social and economic consequences. But we can only achieve this with a collective will and responsibility.

Let us all adhere to the public health guidelines in place and be extra cautious and vigilant during this festive season, as such seasons have been extremely challenging for public health responders all across the world.

STAY SAFE! STAY VIGILANT! NaCOVERC and MoHS wish us all a peaceful and prosperous 2022.

