

Company Name : Pharmaniaga Berhad  
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SINOVAC PRODUCTION DEAL

# PHARMANIAGA TARGETS 2M DOSES MONTHLY FROM MARCH

Company to carry out fill-and-finish process at Puchong plant

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**P**HARMANIAGA Bhd is set to carry out the fill-and-finish process for the Covid-19 vaccine developed by China's Sinovac Life Sciences Co Ltd, which is expected to be distributed to the public by end-March.

This follows the signing of a supply agreement between the two companies for the supply of 14 million doses of the vaccine yesterday.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Senior Minister (Security Cluster) Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba and Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin.

Pharmaniaga group managing director Datuk Zulkarnain Md Eusope said the fill-and-finish process would be carried out by its wholly-owned subsidiary Pharmaniaga LifeSciences Sdn Bhd (PLS) at its plant in Puchong, Selangor.

"We hope to produce the vac-



Pharmaniaga Bhd group managing director Datuk Zulkarnain Md Eusope (second from right) with the signed document after a virtual signing ceremony with Sinovac Life Sciences Co Ltd yesterday. Also present are (from left) Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin, Senior Minister (Security Cluster) Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob and Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba.

BERNAMA PIC

cine by the end of March, upon approval by the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA).

"Our team will be working with Sinovac on the fill-and-finish manufacturing activity and technology transfer to speed up the availability of the vaccines," he said.

Pharmaniaga said the plant could produce around two million Covid-19 vaccine doses a month.

"We have invested around RM3

million to upgrade the plant."

Zulkarnain said its small volume injectable plant in Puchong would process inactivated vaccine (or killed vaccine), adding that the vaccine doses would be stored at PLS facilities at between two and eight degrees Celsius.

"We are also in discussions with the NPRA on the registration for the vaccine and it has been supportive of this project.

"Thus, we are confident of having the vaccine ready for distri-

bution to hospitals by the end of March," he said.

Meanwhile, Khairy told Bernama the agreement between Pharmaniaga and Sinovac was a private initiative.

He added that the vaccination programme would be carried out in the current quarter.

"We are neither too late nor too early. We can design our immunisation programme that can reduce a lot of wastage and it will be rolled out as efficiently as possible," he said.