

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (NEMO) MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES WEST INDIES

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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Chief Medical Officer, Chair, Health Services Subcommittee National Emergency Committee

Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE (131) NEW COVID-19 CASES

FIVE (5) DEATHS

One hundred and thirty-one new COVID-19 positive cases were reported from six hundred and fifty-eight (658) samples processed on Tuesday October 5th, 2021, resulting in a positivity of 20%. All cases are contacts of known positive cases and persons seeking care.

There are currently fifteen (15) patients admitted for COVID-19 at the Argyle Isolation Facility. Fourteen (14) are unvaccinated and one (1) patient is partially vaccinated. Thirty-six (36) patients are admitted to the COVID-19 wards at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital. Thirty-four (34) patients are unvaccinated, one (1) patient is fully vaccinated, and one (1) patient is partially vaccinated.

Five (5) additional COVID-19 deaths have been recorded on Friday October 8th, and Saturday October 9th, 2021. A 94-year-old male who tested positive for COVID-19 on admission to the COVID ward at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital died on October 8th, 2021, of COVID-19 pneumonia. The second patient is a 60-year-old female who tested positive for COVID-19 on September 27th, 2021, died on October 8th, 2021, while admitted to the COVID-19 ward at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital. The third patient is a 34-year-old female who tested positive for COVID-19 on COVID-19 on September 22, 2021 and died on October 8th, 2021. The fourth patient is a 70-year-old female with pre-existing conditions who tested positive for COVID-19 on admission to the COVID-19 ward at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital on October 4th, 2021 and died of a COVID-19 pneumonia on October 8th, 2021. The fifth patient is a 77-year-old male who tested positive for COVID-19 on October 8th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 8th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 2021 and died at home with complications of COVID-19 on October 6th, 20

9th, 2021. All the patients were unvaccinated. Their deaths bring the death toll from COVID-19 to thirty-eight (38).

One hundred and sixty-one (161) new recoveries were noted over the reporting period. One thousand two hundred and eighty-six (1286) cases are currently active and thirty-eight (38) persons with COVID-19 have died. Four thousand and ninety-six (4096) cases of COVID-19 and two thousand, six hundred and ninety-three (2693) recoveries have been recorded in St. Vincent and the Grenadines since March 2020.

The established public health interventions of detection, testing and quarantining or isolation continue aimed at containing and suppressing this current major outbreak. The increased testing associated with these public health interventions coupled with the large number of requests for exit screens from travelers leaving St. Vincent and the Grenadines has resulted in a significant backlog of samples awaiting PCR processing at the Molecular Lab Unit (MLU). This back log, estimated to be 800 samples, should be cleared in 48 hours.

The strict enforcement of and compliance with all protocols and recommendations are required by everyone if the current outbreak, powered by the highly contagious and deadlier Delta and Gamma variants of the (SARS-CoV-2) virus which causes COVID-19, is to be contained. The correct and consistent use of masks, avoidance of crowds, physical distancing, proper hand sanitizing and immunization with available vaccines have all been proven to significantly reduce the risk of being infected, getting sick and or dying from the COVID-19 virus.

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