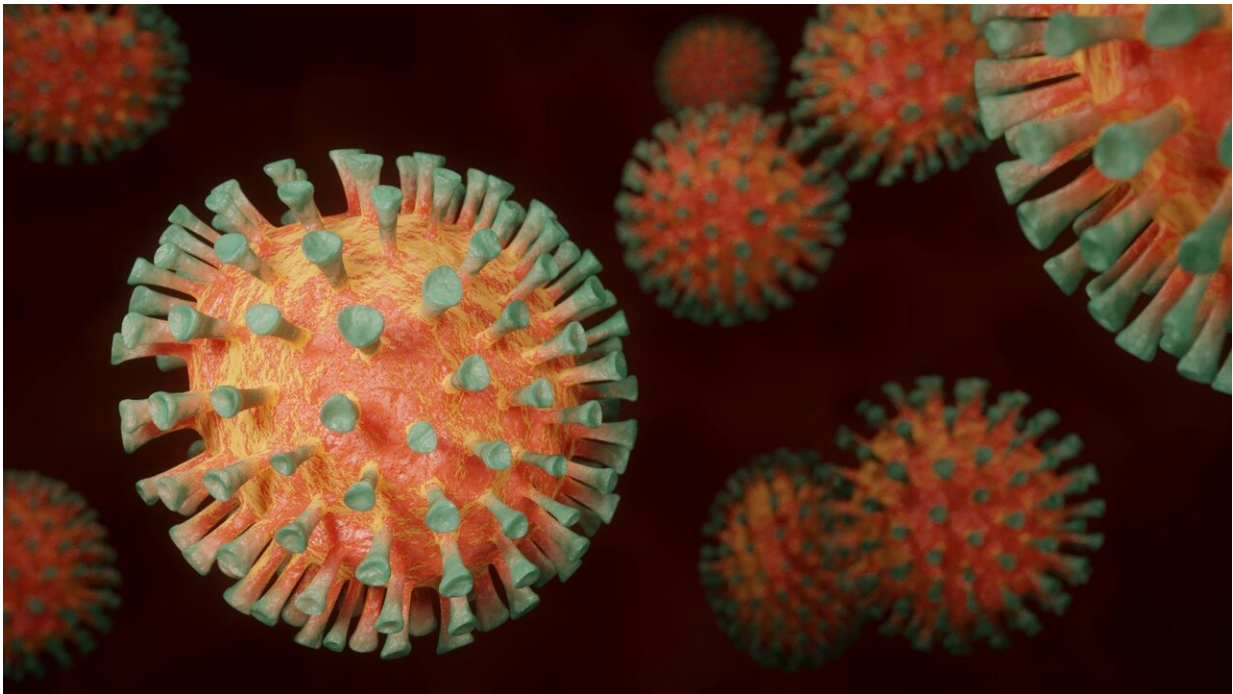


Portugal hails Covid jab 'success' with 85% vaccinated

October 8 2021



Credit: Pixabay/CC0 Public Domain

Portugal has reached its goal of vaccinating 85 percent of its population against COVID-19 and will administer a third booster dose to people 65 years of age and over, health authorities said on Friday.

"The vaccination is an unequivocal success... we have achieved full vaccination coverage of around 85 percent as Portuguese citizens have

embraced the process," said official Graca Freitas of the Directorate General of Health (DGS).

"From next week we will start to vaccinate people aged 65 and over with a third dose," Freitas told reporters.

Priority would be given to those over 80 and residents of nursing homes, she said.

According to national data compiled by AFP, Portugal shares first place with the United Arab Emirates in terms of the percentage of the population fully vaccinated at 84.8 percent.

Among the first European countries to be struck by the more contagious Delta variant, Portugal has seen its fourth COVID-19 wave ebb by accelerating its vaccination campaign.

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