

COVID 19 Vaccination HCW Post-Vaccination Management Plan

Background

- Residents and healthcare worker (HCW) should continue to follow all current CDC infection prevention and control recommendations to protect themselves and others from SARS-CoV-2 infection, **regardless of their vaccination status**
- Positive viral (nucleic or antigen) tests for SARS-CoV-2, if performed, should **not** be attributed to the COVID-19 vaccine, as vaccination **does not influence the results of these tests**.

What to expect following COVID-19 Vaccination:

- Systemic signs and symptoms following the COVID-19 vaccine can include:
 - Fever
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Chills
 - Myalgia (muscle pain)
 - Arthralgia (joint pain)
- Symptoms **NOT** consistent with post-vaccination symptoms include:
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Rhinorrhea (runny nose)
 - Sore throat
 - Loss of taste or smell
- Systemic *adverse events* for the COVID-19 vaccine were more commonly reported **after the second dose** than after the first dose and generally more frequent and severe in persons ages 18-55 years than those >55 years.

Most of these symptoms are

- Mild to moderate in severity
- Occur within the first 3 days of vaccination
- Resolve within 1-2 days of onset

Post-Vaccination Workflow to Evaluate and Manage Signs and Symptoms among HCW

- Strategies are needed to evaluate and manage HCW to avoid:
 - Unnecessarily excluding HCW with only post-vaccination symptoms from work
 - Inadvertently allowing HCW with SARS-CoV-2 or another transmissible infection to work

The strategies below are intended for use by *occupational health programs* and *public health officials*. They **apply to all HCW working in health care settings**.

SYMPTOMS FOLLOWING VACCINATION	Management Approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cough • Shortness of breath • Sore throat and running nose • Loss of taste or smell <p>Or another infectious etiology that are not typical for post-vaccination signs and symptoms</p>	<p>These symptoms are NOT expected post vaccination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO WORK • Recommend evaluation by Occ Med • Criteria for return to work dependent upon the suspected or confirmed diagnosis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever 	<p>This symptom is expected post vaccination, but could be from other potentially infectious source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DO NOT COME TO WORK • Recommend evaluation by Occ Med/PCP <p>Criteria for return to work dependent upon the suspected or confirmed diagnosis</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue • Headache • Chills • Myalgia (muscle pain) • Arthralgia (joint pain) <p>Duration: < 72 hours</p>	<p>These symptoms are expected post vaccination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Option to Contact Occ Med or your PCP for guidance / consultation</i> • May return to work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatigue • Headache • Chills • Myalgia (muscle pain) • Arthralgia (joint pain) <p>Duration: 72 + hours</p>	<p>These symptoms are not expected post vaccination, but could be from other potentially infectious source.</p> <p>DO NOT COME TO WORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend evaluation by Occ Med/PCP • Consider testing for COVID-19
<p>When critical staffing shortages are anticipated or occurring: HCW who have received COVID-19 vaccination, have fever and systemic signs and symptoms limited only to those observed following vaccination</p>	<p>Consult with manager continue to work after consultation with care provider/ Occ Health</p>
<p>When experiencing signs and symptoms of <i>anaphylactic reaction</i> - sudden or gradual onset of generalized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • itching, erythema (redness) • urticarial (hives) 	<p>If at medical facility seek help. If not, call 911</p> <p>Patients who experience anaphylaxis after the first dose of COVID-19 vaccination should be</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• angioedema (swelling) of the lips, face or throat)• bronchospasm (wheezing)• shortness of breath• shock• abdominal cramping and /or diarrhea• cardiovascular collapse	instructed not to receive additional doses. In addition, patients should be referred to an allergist-immunologist for appropriate work-up and additional counseling.
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References

Post Vaccine Considerations for Healthcare Personnel

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/post-vaccine-considerations-healthcare-personnel.html>