**What to Expect After You Receive the COVID-19 Vaccine**

**Getting the COVID-19 vaccine will help prevent you from getting COVID-19. Please visit the** [**CDC website**](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccine-benefits.html) **to learn more about how the vaccine works and the benefits of getting vaccinated.**

**Register for V-SAFE:** V-SAFE is a smartphone-based app that utilizes text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccination with a code unique to you.  Register at <https://vsafe.cdc.gov/>

You can also report side effects on your own to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS): <https://vaers.hhs.gov/>

**Common side effects:** After receiving the vaccine you may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. Most side effects are mild to moderate, last for no more than a few days, and can be treated with common medications such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), naproxen (Aleve) or ibuprofen (Advil). Getting plenty of rest and drinking fluids is also recommended.

* Pain, redness, and/or swelling on the arm where you got the shot
* Fever, chills
* Headache, joint and/or body aches
* Fatigue

Even if you have a side effect from the first dose, you should still plan to receive your second dose as scheduled because two doses are needed to develop the best immunity to COVID-19.

Contact your healthcare provider if you develop severe symptoms after the shot, or if symptoms do not seem to be going away after a few days.

**The following symptoms are not usual side effects of the vaccine and could be a sign that you have COVID-19.** You can’t get COVID-19 from the vaccine, but you may have caught COVID-19 from another source.  **Please self-isolate, follow all precautions, and contact your healthcare provider as soon as possible to receive care and ask about testing for COVID-19.**

* **New cough**
* **Shortness of breath**
* **Sore throat**
* **Loss or change in taste or smell**
* **Runny nose**

**Continue wearing a mask, avoid crowds, and practice social distancing after receiving the vaccine.**

At this time, most people are not vaccinated and can still transmit COVID-19. Also, it takes time for your body to build protection after the vaccination, and COVID-19 vaccines that require 2 shots may not protect you until a week or two after your second shot.

Thank you for doing your part in keeping our community safe!