

COVID-19 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

Manitoba 

What to do if you experience an adverse reaction after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine

Due to the urgent public health needs relating to COVID-19, Health Canada has issued a market authorization with conditions to support early access to COVID-19 vaccine. The approval of the vaccine is supported by evidence that it is safe and effective. However, as with other vaccines and medicines, you may experience adverse reactions or side effects.

The most common adverse reactions from the COVID-19 vaccine that have been identified so far are soreness where the vaccine was given, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain and fever.

Other symptoms that may occur are swelling and redness in the arm area where the vaccine was given, nausea, enlarged lymph nodes and feeling unwell.

ADVERSE REACTIONS ARE USUALLY MILD OR MODERATE AND GO AWAY ON THEIR OWN WITHIN A FEW DAYS OF APPEARING. Oral analgesics or antipyretics (e.g., acetaminophen or ibuprofen) may be considered for the management of adverse events (e.g., pain or fever, respectively), if they occur after vaccination. Unless these adverse events persist or get worse, you do not need to see a health care provider.

BEFORE you leave the place of vaccination

It's important to stay in the vaccination venue for at least 15 minutes after getting the COVID-19 vaccine in the unlikely event of a severe allergic reaction (including hives, difficulty breathing, or swelling of the throat, tongue or lips). You may be asked to wait a little longer up to half an hour if you have a history of allergic reaction to other vaccines, medicines, food or other substances.

There may be a special, designated post-vaccination waiting area in your vaccination location. You need to remain in this area for observation and easy access to assistance should you require it, for the duration that you are advised by your immunization provider.

When the waiting time has elapsed without any reaction to the vaccine, the likelihood of developing any reaction to the vaccine is much lower. You may then go about the rest of your day.

AFTER you leave the place of vaccination

If you experience an adverse event or medical condition of concern after you leave the place of vaccination contact your health care provider or call Health Links–Info Santé in Winnipeg at 204-788-8200, or toll free elsewhere in Manitoba at 1-888-315-9257.

For more information about the vaccine rollout, go to www.manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/index.html