

October 1, 2021

COVID-19 VACCINE MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS (2 PAGER)

⊗ EXEMPTION 1

People who were diagnosed with myocarditis or pericarditis after dose 1 of a Covid-19 vaccine

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They should not have dose 2 at this time.

↳ *People with prior myocarditis or pericarditis should speak to their medical team for advice.*

⊗ EXEMPTION 2

People who have a confirmed anaphylactic* allergy to an ingredient in a Covid-19 vaccine

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They should be referred to an allergist for advice before dose 1.

OR

People who had an anaphylactic* allergic reaction to dose 1 of a Covid-19 vaccine

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They should be referred to an allergist for advice before dose 2.

↳ *Many people who are worried they have an allergy to the Covid-19 vaccines have been able to get vaccinated under the guidance of an allergist.*

THE FOLLOWING REASONS ARE NOT REASONS FOR EXEMPTIONS

PREGNANCY

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for pregnant people. Covid-19 infection can cause serious problems during pregnancy. There are no known risks of Covid-19 vaccines in pregnancy. Vaccines protect against early birth, serious illness, and death.

FERTILITY

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for people who want to have children. There is no evidence that the Covid-19 vaccines affect fertility, genes (DNA), hormones, or the healthy growth of babies.

BREASTFEEDING (CHEST FEEDING)

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for people who are breastfeeding. Covid-19 vaccines protect people who are breastfeeding from a severe Covid-19 infection. There are no known risks of Covid-19 vaccines for breastfed babies. Covid-19 vaccines cannot cause infections in people who are breastfeeding or in babies.

PREVIOUS INFECTION WITH COVID-19

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for people who have had Covid-19. Getting vaccinated will make sure people get the best, longest lasting protection from re-infection. Most people with Covid-19 can have the vaccine when their isolation ends and they are feeling well.

People who were treated for Covid-19 with neutralizing monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma should wait 90 days before getting a Covid-19 vaccine.

ALLERGIES TO OTHER VACCINES

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for people who have had allergic reactions to other vaccines. The Moderna and Pfizer mRNA Covid-19 vaccines have simple ingredients. It is very unlikely that someone with allergies to other vaccines will have an allergic reaction to Covid-19 vaccines.

OTHER ANAPHYLACTIC ALLERGIES (E.G. TO FOODS, DRUGS, STINGING INSECTS, AND PLANTS)

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for people who have anaphylactic allergies to other things, including foods, drugs, insect stings, and plants. The mRNA Covid-19 vaccines have simple ingredients. It is very unlikely that someone with anaphylactic allergies to other things will have an allergic reaction to Covid-19 vaccines.

SERIOUS HEALTH CONDITIONS

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for most people who have serious health conditions. People with serious health conditions may have a higher risk of becoming severely ill or dying from Covid-19 infection.

People who have a complex health history should speak with their medical team about the best time to schedule their Covid-19 vaccinations.

MEDICATIONS THAT AFFECT THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Covid-19 vaccines are recommended for most people who take medications that affect the immune system. People who take medications that weaken the immune system may be at higher risk of getting severely ill from a Covid-19 infection. Some medications may reduce the immune system's response to vaccines. However, getting vaccinated makes sure that people have some protection from becoming severely ill or dying from Covid-19 infection.

People who take medication that affect their immune system should speak with someone from their medical team about the best time to schedule their Covid-19 vaccinations.

SEVERE ANXIETY ABOUT NEEDLES OR MEDICAL VISITS

People with severe anxiety about needles or medical visits should speak with their health-care team to access the supports that they need to get vaccinated. It is important to consider that medical care due to a Covid-19 infection will also be difficult for people with severe anxiety about needles or medical visits.