MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Alert

MESSAGE ID: **MSHAN-20201221-00485-ALT (Health Alert)**

RECIPIENTS: **All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and Healthcare Providers – Statewide**

Monday, December 21, 2020

SUBJECT: **Reporting Adverse Events After COVID-19 Vaccination and Recommendations for Severe Allergic Reactions/Anaphylaxis**

Key Messages (see full text for details):

- **Both Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 mRNA vaccines have received Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA.**
- **Rare anaphylactic reactions have been noted after vaccination with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine outside of clinical trials.**
- **MSDH recommends that any individual with a history of severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis (including from medications or prior vaccinations) consult with their provider before receiving either mRNA vaccine.**
- **Providers should report any post vaccination adverse event to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).**
- **In addition to reporting to VAERS, Mississippi providers should also report any of the following after vaccination to MSDH at 601-576-7725:**
  - **Severe anaphylaxis or allergic reaction**
  - **Cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome**
  - **Cases of COVID-19 that result in hospitalization or death**

Dear Colleagues,

Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine has been distributed to several hospitals this week and vaccination of healthcare personnel in the state has begun. Over the weekend the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) through the FDA, and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) released recommendations for the use of Moderna vaccine. This week Mississippi will receive allocations of both vaccines for further distribution for vaccination of healthcare personnel and long-term care residents.

Vaccine Precautions

Providers are encouraged to review the ACIP recommendations and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention clinical considerations for the use of both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, including the contraindications and precautions for use of the vaccine. Anaphylaxis following vaccination was not seen in with either Pfizer or Moderna vaccine clinical trials. However,

anaphylactic reactions have been noted following vaccination with the Pfizer product outside of the clinical trials.

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) recommends that individuals with a history of severe allergic reactions or anaphylaxis (including from injectable medications or prior vaccines) consult with their provider before vaccination with either Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. When administering these vaccines, appropriate medical treatment must be immediately available in the event of anaphylaxis or severe allergic reaction.

Adverse Event Reporting:

Adverse events that occur following the administration of COVID-19 vaccines should be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS). Information on how to submit a report to VAERS is available at VAERS - Report an Adverse Event (hhs.gov). In addition to reporting to VAERS, Mississippi providers are asked to notify MSDH at 601-576-7725 with any of the following after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.

- Severe anaphylaxis or allergic reaction
- Cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome
- Cases of COVID-19 that result in hospitalization or death

The CDC has also developed a voluntary smartphone tool, v-safe, which uses text messaging to provide health check-ins after COVID-19 vaccination. Please see the link under resources for more information regarding v-safe.

Post-vaccination Recommendations:

After COVID-19 vaccination individuals should continue to follow all guidance for the prevention of COVID-19 infection and transmission, including wearing masks in public, limiting social gatherings, avoiding crowds, staying at least 6 feet or more away from others, and washing hands frequently.

Resources:

- Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine | CDC
- Interim Considerations: Preparing for the Potential Management of Anaphylaxis at COVID-19 Vaccination Sites Management of Anaphylaxis at COVID-19 Vaccination Sites | CDC
- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 2020 | MMWR (cdc.gov)

- The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Use of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 2020 | MMWR (cdc.gov)
- VAERS - Report an Adverse Event (hhs.gov)
- V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker
- Post Vaccine Considerations for Residents
- Post Vaccine Considerations for Healthcare Personnel
- Importance of COVID-19 Vaccination for Residents of Long-term Care Facilities
- The Importance of COVID-19 Vaccination for Healthcare Personnel

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD
State Epidemiologist

MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency:	Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program:	MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier:	MSHAN-20201221-00485-ALT
Program (HAN) Type:	Health Alert
Status (Type):	Actual ()
Message Type:	Alert
Reference:	MSHAN-00485
Severity:	Unknown
Acknowledgement:	No
Sensitive:	Not Sensitive
Message Expiration:	Undetermined
Urgency:	Undetermined
Delivery Time:	600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT **(ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory, UPD=Health Update, MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**).

Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages**.**

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

Status (Type):

Actual:	Communication or alert refers to a live event
Exercise:	Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
Test:	Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

Message Type:

Alert:	Indicates an original Alert
Update:	Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel:	Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error:	Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of "Update" or "Cancel", this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. "n/a" = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme:	Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe:	Significant threat to life or property
Moderate:	Possible threat to life or property
Minor:	Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown:	Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive:	Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive:	Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).