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Department of Public Health & Environment

HEALTH ALERT NETWORK BROADCAST
MESSAGE ID: 01272021 14:30
FROM: CO-CDPHE
SUBJECT: HAN Advisory – **Correction:** Quarantine Recommendations after Vaccination against COVID-19
RECIPIENTS: Local Public Health Agencies / IPs / Clinical Labs / EDs / ID Physicians / Coroners
RECIPIENT INSTRUCTIONS: Local Public Health Agencies – please forward to healthcare providers

HEALTH ADVISORY | **Correction:** Quarantine Recommendations after COVID-19 Vaccination | January 27, 2021

Health care providers: Please distribute widely in your office

This information is for the public health and health care community. Do not post this document on a public web or social media site.

Key points

- In most cases, individuals who have received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) schedule, do not need to quarantine after exposure to COVID-19 once two weeks have passed after the second dose. Fully-immunized close contacts should still monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 during the 14 days after exposure, and if symptoms develop, they should isolate and seek testing.

- People who live or work in high-risk congregate settings (for example, jails or prisons) may still be required to quarantine, even if fully vaccinated.

- People who are fully vaccinated need to continue to practice physical distancing, avoid social groups and gatherings, and wear face masks at all times when in public places. Healthcare providers should continue to follow all recommended infection control and personal protective equipment (PPE) guidance.

- CDC has updated their interim clinical guidance on COVID-19 vaccines (https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html) including an extended time frame for the administration of the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine (up to 42 days after the first dose, when necessary, although the three- and four-week intervals respectively are still recommended when possible).

- According to CDC, data from clinical trials indicate that mRNA COVID-19 vaccines can safely be given to persons with evidence of a prior SARS-CoV-2 infection.

- CDC has warned that infrequently, persons who have received dermal fillers may develop swelling at or near the site of filler injection (usually face or lips) following administration of a dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. This appears to be temporary and can resolve with medical treatment, including corticosteroid therapy. mRNA COVID-19 vaccines may be administered to persons who have received injectable dermal fillers who have no contraindications to vaccination.

Background information

On Dec. 11, 2020, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine. This vaccine was subsequently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). It is authorized for people 16 years old and older, and is given as two doses 21 days apart. On Dec. 18, 2020, the FDA issued an EUA for the Moderna COVID-19 mRNA vaccine. This vaccine was subsequently recommended by the CDC's ACIP. It is authorized for people 18 years old and older, and is given as two doses 28 days apart. In general, a person is thought to have developed immunity by 2 weeks after the second dose.

Recommendations / guidance

CDPHE recommends that for most individuals, quarantine is not necessary once a person has received both doses of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine and two weeks have passed after the second dose. However, exposed individuals who have been fully vaccinated per the ACIP schedule should continue to watch for symptoms in the 14 days after exposure and seek testing if symptoms develop. If a vaccinated individual tests positive for COVID-19, they are still required to isolate; neither vaccine would cause a person to test positive on a molecular or antigen test. A positive molecular or antigen test means that the person is currently infected with SARS-CoV-2 and might be able to transmit the infection to others.

There is currently insufficient data to determine immunity after one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, so if an individual is exposed after one dose the person must still complete quarantine; in that case, the second dose should be completed after the quarantine period has ended. If a person has received two doses but it has been less than 14 days since the second dose was received, they should also quarantine if exposed to a person with COVID-19.

CDC has not released updated guidance for travelers who have been vaccinated. Continue to follow CDC guidance for domestic and international travel. Your travel destination may have additional requirements.

- While evidence from clinical trials indicated the currently licensed vaccines are highly effective, it remains possible that people who are fully vaccinated could still acquire asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection, or attenuated infection. Preliminary data from the Moderna trial suggested a lower risk of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection following one dose, when individuals were tested prior to receiving their second dose of vaccine; there were 2/3 fewer positive individuals in the vaccine group compared to the placebo group (14 vs 38 individuals; https://www.fda.gov/media/144453/download).

Those who live and work in congregate settings or with high-risk populations may still be required to quarantine after an exposure, even after they are fully vaccinated. This is because a small percentage of vaccinated individuals may still acquire SARS-CoV-2 infection; furthermore, the ability of vaccinated individuals to transmit the virus has not yet been fully studied. Public health will make recommendations in these situations, taking into account the particular setting, the vaccination status of those living or working in the facility, and the subsequent risk of an outbreak in the facility.

More information

- CDPHE COVID-19 web page: covid19.colorado.gov
- CDPHE COVID-19 vaccine web pages: covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine
- CDPHE COVID-19 vaccine hotline: 1-877-CO VAX CO (1-877-268-2926)
- CDC COVID-19 web page: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- For questions about COVID-19 in Colorado, call the **CDPHE Disease Reporting Line:** 303-692-2700 or 303-370-9395 (after hours)
- Health care provider FAQs from CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html
- CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) Calls: https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp
- List of updated CDC guidance: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html

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