

Information for Healthcare Professionals about the Screening Checklist for the COVID-19 Vaccine

NOTE: For summary information on contraindications and precautions to vaccines, go to the ACIP's General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/general-recs/contraindications.html

1. Are you feeling sick today?

If yes, refer to the vaccination site healthcare provider for assessment of current health status. If patient is feeling moderately or severely ill, do not vaccinate at this time and ask the patient to return when symptoms improve.

2. In the last 10 days have you had a COVID-19 test or been told by a healthcare provider or health department to isolate at home due to COVID-19 infection?

If yes, advise patient to return to isolation and reschedule for after isolation ends.

If patient was diagnosed with COVID-19 greater than 10 days ago and has been asymptomatic for 24 hours or more, patient may be vaccinated.

If the patient has had a test in the last 10 days, ask the result. If positive send them home, if negative they can proceed to vaccination. If the result is unsure or unknown advise the patient to return once a negative test has been confirmed or 10 days have passed since a positive test.

Since re-infection within 90 days of having a positive test is extremely unlikely and such a person likely has an immune response, vaccination can be delayed for 90 days. This has to be balanced with the person's role and their ability to receive vaccine in 90 days.

3. In the last 10 days have you been told by a healthcare provider or health department to quarantine at home due to COVID-19 exposure?

If yes, advise patient to return to quarantine, and reschedule for after quarantine ends.

4. Have you been treated with antibody therapy or convalescent plasma for COVID-19 in the past 90 days (3 months)? If yes, when did you receive the last dose?

If yes, reschedule at least 90 days after last dose of antibody therapy.

5. Have you ever had an immediate allergic reaction, such as hives, facial swelling, difficulty breathing or anaphylaxis, to any vaccine or shot or to any component of the COVID-19 vaccine, such as polyethylene glycol (PEG) or polysorbate?

Review the ingredient lists at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html#Appendix-A>

If yes, then refer to the vaccination site healthcare provider for assessment of allergic reaction.

6. Have you had any vaccines in the past 14 days (2 weeks)

including flu shot? If yes, how long ago was your most recent vaccine?

If yes, then reschedule at least 14 days after the most recent vaccine.

7. Are you pregnant or considering becoming pregnant?

If yes, ask the patient to consider having a discussion with her/his provider or a healthcare provider at site for counseling on the risks and benefits of COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy. Patient may be vaccinated if they choose.

8. Do you have cancer, leukemia, HIV/AIDS, a history of autoimmune disease or any other condition that weakens the immune system?

If yes, refer to the vaccination site healthcare provider to discuss what is known and not yet known about COVID-19 vaccine for immunocompromised people. You can tell the patient that if they are immunocompromised or are on a medicine that affects their immune system, they may have a less strong immune response to the vaccine but may still get vaccinated. They should continue to follow current guidance to protect themselves against COVID-19.

9. Do you take any medications that affect your immune system, such as cortisone, prednisone or other steroids, anticancer drugs, or have you had any radiation treatments?

If yes, refer to the vaccination site healthcare provider to discuss what is known and not yet known about COVID-19 vaccine for immunosuppressed people. You can tell the patient that if they are immunocompromised or are on a medicine that affects their immune system, they may have a less strong immune response to the vaccine but may still get vaccinated. They should continue to follow current guidance to protect themselves against COVID-19.

10. Do you have a bleeding disorder or are you taking a blood thinner?

If yes, refer to healthcare provider to assess the patient's bleeding risk. If cleared for vaccination, then administer vaccine using a 23-gauge or smaller caliber needle and apply firm pressure on the site of vaccination, without rubbing, for at least 2 minutes after vaccination.

11. Have you received a previous dose of COVID-19 vaccine?

If yes, verify that the second dose is from the same manufacturer as the previous dose and that the second dose is being administered within the correct timeframe (21 days from first dose for Pfizer; 28 days from first dose for Moderna). If patient does not recall previous COVID-19 vaccine received, check medical records, NYSIIS, CIR, and vaccination record cards to help determine the initial product received. The second dose should be administered as close to the recommended interval as possible. However, there is no maximum interval between the first and second dose for either vaccine.

*** Anyone answering “Unknown” to any screening question should be referred to the medical director or responsible healthcare provider at the POD or clinic to further assess their answer to that question. (E.g., the person might not have understood the question and the healthcare provider could explain it further).**