



Investigating Long-Term Effects of Myocarditis

How CDC Is Investigating Myocarditis Health Effects after COVID-19 Vaccination

Updated July 20, 2022

What You Need to Know

- CDC is conducting surveys of patients (or their parents or guardians) and healthcare providers to gather information about myocarditis after COVID-19 vaccination.
- CDC is contacting people who meet the case definition for myocarditis following COVID-19 vaccination.

Participating in the Survey

CDC is contacting people who meet the case definition for myocarditis following COVID-19 vaccination and have been reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). To meet the case definition, people must have had:

- Symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath, and feelings of having a fast-beating, fluttering, or pounding heart **and**
- Medical tests to support the diagnosis of myocarditis and rule out other causes.
- CDC will contact people with myocarditis reported to VAERS after at least 90 days have passed since myocarditis symptoms began and will publish data as it becomes available.
- People may get a letter in the mail or receive a phone call from CDC asking questions about their myocarditis and medical history.
- Personal information and responses will be kept private to the extent allowable under the law. When the patient is a minor, a parent or legal guardian will be invited to participate on their behalf.

How did CDC get my contact information?

CDC got your contact information from the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System ([VAERS](#)), a secure system that contains information needed to check in with patients to see how they are recovering after they experience a serious event following vaccination.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) **requires** healthcare professionals to report to VAERS certain [serious adverse events and hospitalizations](#) that occur after COVID-19 vaccination.

How is CDC using my information?

The information you provide will contribute to what we know about the safety of COVID-19 vaccines, which helps us get a more complete picture of the risks and benefits of COVID-19 vaccination.

Personal details that could identify you will be kept private and information about your case will be combined with information from other participants. This means **your name and any identifying information will not be included in any reports**. CDC and FDA will use this information to guide recommendations on the safe use of COVID-19 vaccines.

For you and others who experienced myocarditis after receiving an mRNA vaccine, scientists will be looking at health effects such as:

- Changes in your health, physical ability, or quality of life
- How your heart recovers from myocarditis

Why is CDC contacting my healthcare provider?

Having information on medications you take and your test results can provide a more complete picture of your health following myocarditis. Your healthcare provider can provide this information, which is important as we try to understand more about myocarditis after COVID-19 vaccination.

How to Report Health Problems after Vaccination

You or your healthcare professional **can** report any adverse events or health problems after COVID-19 vaccination to VAERS by filling out an [online form](#) or a [PDF form](#).

FDA **requires** healthcare professionals to report [certain adverse events](#) that occur after administering COVID-19 vaccine, but **anyone can submit a report to VAERS, including you**.

Reports to VAERS are important to understanding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines as more people receive them over time. If you need further assistance with reporting to VAERS, please email info@VAERS.org or call 1-800-822-7967.

Related Pages

- › [Myocarditis and Pericarditis Following mRNA COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- › [COVID-19 Vaccine Safety and Monitoring](#)
- › [Benefits of Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- › [Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

More Information

[Case Definition for Myocarditis following mRNA COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Publications](#)