



Side Effects of the Coronavirus Vaccines

Some people may experience side effects after the vaccine. These are usually mild and are much less severe than developing coronavirus or complications associated with coronavirus. Any side effects typically go away within a few days.

Common side effects

Some of the common side effects of the coronavirus vaccine may include:

- tenderness, itching, swelling and/or redness at the injection site
- headache
- muscle or joint aches
- feeling tired (fatigue)
- nausea
- chills or feeling feverish
- fever (temperature above 37.8°C).

A less common side effect is swollen glands in the armpit or neck, on the same side as the arm where you had the vaccine.

This can last for around ten days, but if it lasts longer, see your doctor.

If you are due for breast cancer screening (a mammogram), then you should mention that you have had the vaccine when you attend.

If you feel uncomfortable, take acetaminophen (Tylenol). Please take it as directed on the label or leaflet.

Severe allergic reactions (lip or tongue swelling, difficulty breathing, chest tightness) are rare and usually occur soon after the vaccine is administered. **In these circumstances, it is important to call 911.**

If you have any questions or concerns about a potential vaccination reaction, please contact SETFHT.

Important - Two doses

It is essential to get two doses of the vaccine, even if you have mild side effects after the first dose.



South East Toronto

Family Health Team



Fever after the coronavirus vaccine

It's quite common to develop a fever after a vaccination. This typically happens within 48 hours of the vaccination and usually goes away within 48 hours.

You do not need to self-isolate or book a test unless you have other coronavirus symptoms or:

- Toronto Public Health has told you that you are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus
- you live with someone who has recently tested positive for coronavirus
- you live with someone who has symptoms of coronavirus

If the fever starts more than 48 hours after the vaccination or lasts longer than 48 hours, you should self-isolate and book a test.

Resources:

[Vaccines for COVID-19 - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/vaccines-and-immunization/covid-19-vaccines.html)

[COVID-19 – City of Toronto](https://www.toronto.ca/covid-19/)