

9/9/2021

Dear Board of Health,

As a trained epidemiologist I am writing to support that we consider the **totality of evidence** when mandating a vaccine for state employees. Due to the self-report nature, those that are experiencing AEs including death are not likely all getting reported into the CDC VAERS database therefore underestimating the adverse event potential.

Although we are unable to establish causality it is our job to evaluate the evidence in totality and the documented side effects seem substantial enough to have concern.

To date in the US and territories **531,981 adverse events have been reported** due to the covid vaccines.

I have listed some summary points below although likely an underestimate:

- **Anaphylaxis after COVID-19 vaccination** has occurred in approximately 2 to 5 people per million vaccinated in the United States.
- **Thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) after COVID-19 vaccination.** As of August 25, 2021. CDC and FDA identified 46 confirmed reports of people who got the COVID-19 Vaccine and later developed TTS. Women younger than 50 years old especially should be aware of the increased risk of this adverse event.
- CDC and FDA are monitoring reports of [Guillain-Barré Syndrome](#) (GBS) in people who have received the COVID-19 Vaccine. GBS is a rare disorder where the body's immune system damages nerve cells, causing muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis. Most people fully recover from GBS, but some have permanent nerve damage.
- There have been around 176 preliminary reports of GBS identified in VAERS as of August 25, 2021. These cases have largely been reported about 2 weeks after vaccination and mostly in men, many 50 years and older. CDC will continue to monitor for and evaluate reports of GBS occurring after COVID-19 vaccination and will share more information as it becomes available.
- **Myocarditis and pericarditis after COVID-19 vaccination.** As of August 25, 2021, VAERS has received **1,377 reports of myocarditis or pericarditis** among people ages 30 and younger who received COVID-19 vaccine. Most cases have been reported, particularly in male adolescents and young adults. Through follow-up, including medical record reviews, CDC and FDA have confirmed 798 reports of myocarditis or pericarditis. CDC and its partners are investigating these reports to assess whether there is a relationship to COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Reports of death after COVID-19 vaccination** December 14, 2020, through August 30, 2021. During this time, VAERS received **7,218 reports of death** (0.0020%) among people who received a COVID-19 vaccine. FDA requires healthcare providers to report any death after COVID-19 vaccination to VAERS

Understandably we are in a pandemic and our public health response is necessary to keep the population healthy and safe. However, based on my review of the adverse event database and having been an epidemiologist since 2005, **I am simply asking that the weekly testing option is not removed for state employees.** For those that are willing to be tested weekly until we have more documented evidence regarding the adverse events, this seems like a safe and viable option.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/adverse-events.html>

Thank you,

Sheniz Moonie, PhD, MS

Professor