

May 26, 2021

## WA State Department of Health HAN: Myocarditis or pericarditis after COVID-19 vaccination

### Actions Requested:

- Review information and clinical recommendations outlined in the WA DOH 5/25/2021 HAN, Myocarditis or pericarditis after COVID-19 vaccination (see page 2)
- Report any cases that meet criteria to:
  - US Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS): <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>
  - Kitsap Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine staff by calling 360-728-2235

**Questions? Please contact Kitsap Public Health COVID-19 Vaccine staff at 360-728-2235**

### Resources

CDC VaST Work Group Technical Report – May 17, 2021: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/work-groups-vast/technical-report-2021-05-17.html>

WA DOH Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19): <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

## Myocarditis or pericarditis after COVID-19 vaccination

05/25/2021

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH), along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other state health agencies are aware of reports of myocarditis following COVID-19 vaccination. To ensure all possible cases are identified, DOH is requesting that health care providers:

- Consider a diagnosis of myocarditis or pericarditis in any evaluation of chest pain following COVID-19 vaccination;
- Inquire about recent COVID-19 vaccination in any patient presenting with symptoms consistent with myocarditis or pericarditis (chest pain or pressure, or shortness of breath, EKG abnormalities); and
- Report such cases promptly to the U.S. Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS: <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>). It is recommended that the evaluating (not administering) provider report the incident to VAERS so that appropriate clinical details can be reported accurately.
- Please report any cases that meet the criteria above to your local health jurisdiction in addition to submitting the VAERS report.

Further investigation is needed to determine if these illnesses might be associated with vaccination or if they are possibly due to other health factors including coronavirus disease (COVID-19). DOH is actively working with the CDC, local public health, and health care providers on this investigation.

In depth review of available reports of myocarditis or pericarditis is in progress and DOH is aware of persons, including some adolescents, with myocarditis that may be temporally associated with receipt of COVID-19 vaccination. The current reports under review appear to indicate mild symptoms in some individuals who have been vaccinated.

To help us continue to monitor for this emerging concern and to inform the national assessment, the DOH asks that providers be alert for pericarditis or myocarditis following vaccination and report any such patient illnesses promptly to VAERS and notify your local health jurisdiction. Providers are asked to report any cases with symptoms within the two weeks following COVID-19 vaccination, including both first and second doses of vaccine.

Clinical features of myocarditis and pericarditis include chest pain or pressure, shortness of breath, electrocardiogram (EKG) changes and elevated cardiac biomarkers. Providers should ask for detailed history including vaccination status and potential exposures to or diagnosis of COVID-19. Patients should be tested for COVID-19 infection using a molecular (PCR) test.

Common side effects after receiving the COVID-19 vaccines include soreness at the injection site, fatigue and headache. Less common side effects include muscle aches, chills, joint pain, vomiting, and fever. Most symptoms resolve after a day or two.

Given the long-term and sometimes unknown impact of COVID-19 infection, DOH and CDC continue to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for people 12 years of age and older.