

## IMPORTANT UPDATES ON COVID-19

**To:** Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Midwives  
Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

### **Delayed Local Reactions Due to COVID-19 Vaccinations with Moderna**

Some patients may experience a delayed localized injection site reaction, ~8 days post-vaccination. Reactions including erythema, induration, and tenderness will typically resolve within 4 to 5 days without the use of antibiotics. They are not characterized by systemic symptoms and do not increase the risk of anaphylaxis with future vaccination. The mechanism could be T-cell mediated similar to Tuberculin response.

The reactions have been reported to occur after vaccinating with the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. If an individual has experienced a delayed local reaction in the past, they may still receive vaccines in the future. There is a **decreased** frequency of delayed local reactions following the second dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

When providing the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, include counselling to patients about delayed local reactions and reassure all individuals that the reaction is benign and self-limited.

Delayed local reactions should be reported as an Adverse Event Following Immunization if they last greater than 4 days or extend beyond the nearest joint whether it is delayed or immediate as per the [provincial case definition](#).

Please use the provincial [AEFI Reporting Form](#). Completed forms can be submitted to Timiskaming Health Unit faxed to: 705-647-5779.

#### **For more information:**

- Watch the webcast - [PHAC: COVID-19 Vaccines Emerging Issues: Delayed Injection Site Reactions](#)
- Letter in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. [Delayed Large Local Reactions to mRNA-1273 Vaccine against SARS-CoV-2](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Timiskaming Health Unit:

**Monday to Friday**  
**8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

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#### **After-Hours or Weekend** **On-Call Number**

(705) 647-3033

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