

## COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions Short Version

### Logistics

#### What if I can't make my appointment?

Please do everything you can to make your scheduled appointment. If you are unable to make your appointment, we run the risk of wasting a dose of vaccine. In addition, there is limited flexibility with timing. If you work at South Lake Union and are unable to make your appointment, please contact Employee Health at (206) 606-2500 or [employeehealth@seattlecca.org](mailto:employeehealth@seattlecca.org) as soon as possible so that we can offer the vaccine to someone else during your time slot. If you work at a community site, please contact your clinic manager if you cannot make your appointment. Your vaccine will be rescheduled as soon as we can get you into the schedule.

#### What if I am running late to my appointment?

Please do everything that you can to arrive at your appointment start time. **If you have not checked in by 5 minutes after your appointment start time, Employee Health will cancel your appointment and begin calling employees on the back up list.** This process keeps the vaccine tent running on time and avoid wasting any doses. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

#### When will I get my second shot?

Employee Health will schedule your second vaccine when you check in for your first vaccine. You will also receive an email reminder. It is critical that everyone receive their second dose and get it at the time that it is scheduled.

#### What can I expect during my appointment?

You will be scheduled for a 30-minute window to receive your vaccination. This will include prep time, time to fill out consent paperwork, vaccination time, and a required 15-minute observation period following your vaccination. If you have a history of allergic reaction you may be required to stay for a 30-minute observation period following your vaccination. Because we are still physical distancing, it is important that you arrive for your vaccine as close to the time of your appointment as possible. You should bring your employee badge, and you will be asked to verify the information you had previously filled out online. We will give you a fact sheet and information on side effects.

#### How long will the entire process take?

Appointments are scheduled for a 30-minute window as described above. Our vaccine team will do their best to have your entire appointment completed within 30 minutes (45 minutes if you have a history of allergic reactions). However, sometimes there may be short delays. If possible, please leave at least an hour between the start time of your vaccine appointment and any important meetings or patient visits to avoid the need to reschedule if there are delays.

## **Safety and side effects**

### **Can I get vaccinated if I'm experiencing COVID symptoms?**

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, please reschedule your vaccination. Stay home from work and take the [COVID-19 symptom survey](#).

### **What if I have side effects after I get the vaccine?**

You will be monitored for immediate side effects for 15 minutes after you get the vaccine. Some people may have symptoms that are like COVID-19 but are not actual infection. Please refer to the Post COVID-19 Vaccination Signs and Symptoms – Return to Work Guidance posted on the [COVID-19 Resources page](#) and [provider page](#) for next steps. See HR section below for information on time tracking if you are unable to work as a result of injection site reaction or other side effects.

### **What if I have an adverse reaction to the vaccine that is more serious than the side effects?**

If you have an adverse reaction, such as swelling of the face, mouth, or difficulty swallowing or breathing, you should call 911 immediately.

### **I understand that getting the vaccine doesn't prevent you from being an asymptomatic vector of transmission. Is that true?**

Data that is currently available from the clinical trials show that the vaccine is effective in preventing infection to the recipient; however, we do not yet know whether the vaccine is effective in preventing transmission of COVID-19. Until we learn more about the impact of vaccination on the transmission of COVID-19 and have a large enough portion of our community that is vaccinated, it is critical to continue following infection prevention practices, including the three W's: wear a mask, watch your distance, wash your hands.

### **Once I am vaccinated, do I still need to mask and physical distance?**

Yes, vaccinated individuals will need to continue to follow our infection prevention practices, including masking and physical distancing. It is important for all of us to continue to practice these measures when at work and out in the community until we learn more about the impact of vaccination on the transmission of COVID-19 and have a large enough portion of our community that is vaccinated.

### **Is my family at risk if I get the vaccine? Will I shed virus from the vaccine?**

As this is not a live virus vaccine, there is no risk of shedding virus from the vaccine and no risk to your family and others around you.

## HR and time off

### How do I track my time if I have vaccine side effects?

If you have a reaction during the 15-minute observation time and need to be off work for a period of time, track your time off in Kronos and select the COVID-19 Quarantine pay code. If you have side effects that require you to take a COVID-19 test, use the COVID-19 Quarantine pay code until you receive test results.

Please note: Employees are responsible for notifying their managers of their injection reaction. Employees are expected to use the appropriate protocols to request time off and keep their manager updated on their return to work status.

### What if I've used all my sick leave, but get sick later and need more sick time?

If you have used all of your sick time, you will be able to incur a negative sick balance of up to a maximum of 14 days. Per-diem employees are limited to their accrued sick time balance. This is a short-term solution designed to help staff through the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as part of SCCA's commitment to the health and wellbeing of its employees.

Please note: Once an eligible employee has used 14-days of negative sick leave, the employee will need to use other accrued paid time or unpaid time off until they accrue more sick time.

## More information

### How do I find more information on the COVID Vaccine?

You can find a comprehensive FAQ on the vaccine and other vaccine-related documents on the [COVID-19 Resources page](#) and [COVID-19 Provider page](#). For other vaccine related questions, visit the [CDC's COVID-19 vaccine website](#). Please contact your healthcare provider for questions related to your personal health and the COVID vaccine. If your questions aren't answered within these resources, contact the following: [employeehealth@seattlecca.org](mailto:employeehealth@seattlecca.org) for scheduling and logistics; [covid19vaccine@seattlecca.org](mailto:covid19vaccine@seattlecca.org) for general COVID questions.