

THE HEART OF SAN DIEGO I CARING FOR ONE HEART AT A TIME

COVID-19 Vaccine Cheat Sheet

The FDA has granted an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), to prevent COVID-19 to two vaccines.

Similarities

- Both are mRNA based vaccines. The mRNA is delivered in a fatty particle. It has the instructions on how to make the COVID-19 spike protein. This will allow the body to make antibodies to bind the virus, preventing it from entering and harming the body cells.
- The vaccines do not use inactivated virus, attenuated virus, or any other kind of virus.
- Both are safe and effective, and were studies in clinical trials in large number of patients.
- Both can cause an immune response, causing fevers, aches, body pains, nausea, headaches, side effects are worse after the second dose.
- Both require two dose.

Differences:

Pfizer	moderna
Age: Authorized for age > 16 years	Age: Authorized for age > 18 years
Clinical Trial Data:	Clinical Trial Data:
• Enrolled > 43,000 patients	• Enrolled > 28,000 patients
• 95% Efficacy (95% CI 90.3-97.6)	• 94% Efficacy (95% CI 89.3- 96.8)
• Efficacy is similar across all ages and race groups.	• Ages > 65 years efficacy is 86.4% (more data coming
Side Effects: (% of people having side effects)	Side Effects: (% of people having side effects)
• Injection site pain 84%, Fatigue 63%, Headaches	• Injection site pain 92%, Fatigue 70%, Headaches
55%, muscle aches 38%, Chills 32%, Fevers 14%	65%, muscle aches 61%, Chills 45%, Fevers 15%
Rare Side Effects	Rare Side Effects
• Bells Palsy: 4 cases	• Bells Palsy: 3 cases
• Severe Allergy (anaphylaxis) Not seen during trial	• Severe Allergy (anaphylaxis) Not seen during trial
Storage:	Storage:
 Needs specialized freezers requiring between -80°C and -60°C 	• Can be stored in may be stored in a freezer between -25°C and -15°C
Dosing: Requires 2 doses (Day 1 and Day 21)	Dosing: Requires 2 doses (Day 1 and Day 28)

Long Term Side Effects: To date, there are no serious, long-term side effects associated noted in both vaccines.

Pregnant Women: Both vaccines have not been studied in pregnant women: Animal studies did not indicate any harm to fetus.

Anaphylaxis: Patients with history of anaphylaxis to vaccines and drugs are at risk and should avoid. People with other allergies, can get vaccine and observed for 30 minutes.

Durability of Protection: It is unknown about how long will the vaccine provide protection. Consensus is at least 6 months to 1 year.

Vaccination after COVID-19 Infection: There is a risk of reinfection, vaccine can be administered usually after two weeks of recovering from COVID-19 infection.

*The information above is intended purely as a guide and does not replace clinical judgment. COVID-19 is an emerging disease and latest vaccination data published may differ from the above information.



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