



# COVID-19 PFIZER VACCINE

## SAFETY INFORMATION FOR YOUTH (12-17)

*Vaccination is the best protection against COVID-19 and its complications, in addition to other measures such as physical distancing, wearing a mask and handwashing.*  
*Mikwec for doing your part to protect yourself, your family and our Cree Nation by getting the COVID-19 vaccine.*

### THE VACCINE

- ✓ The **Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is approved and recommended for people who are 12 years of age and older**
- ✓ The vaccine **requires two doses**. Shots are by injection in the muscle of the arm.

### POSSIBLE REACTIONS TO THE VACCINE

- ✓ After receiving your shot, stay at the vaccination clinic for **at least 15 minutes**.
- ✓ Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine, such as pain at the injection site in your arm. **See page 2 for a list of possible reactions** and what to do.
- ✓ These side effects mean your body's immune system is **learning how to protect you** from COVID-19.
- ✓ **Most reactions are harmless and last less than 48 hours**. Most people have stronger reactions to the second dose than they did to the first dose, although some have no reaction at all. Reactions can be reduced by taking Tylenol™ (acetaminophen).
- ✓ **Vaccines can not cause COVID-19** because they do not contain the virus that causes COVID-19.

### SAFE AND EFFECTIVE

- ✓ The COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine is **approved by Health Canada and is safe**. It has met all the requirements for approval.
- ✓ One (1) dose protects people from severe forms of the COVID-19 disease in the short term, and from serious consequences like hospitalization. Recent studies suggest 1 dose of the vaccine has lower efficacy against the Delta variant. **After 2 doses, vaccine efficacy is 95%, and protection against the disease is longer lasting.**
- ✓ The vaccine is an **important layer of protection**, along with other precautionary measures.
- ✓ Experts are closely monitoring any adverse reactions that could occur following vaccination to **ensure the public receives a safe, effective vaccine.**

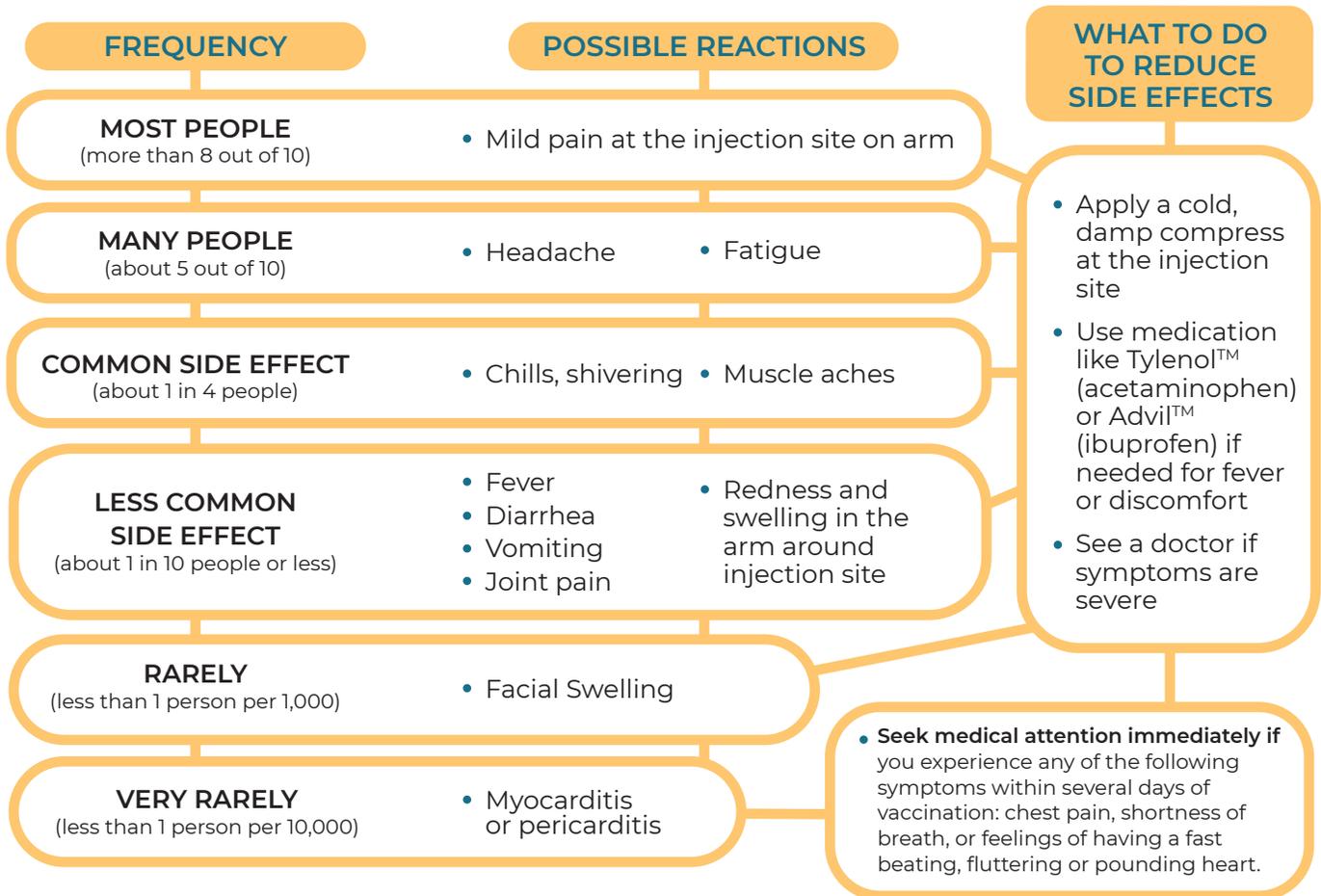




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## POSSIBLE REACTIONS TO THE VACCINE AND WHAT TO DO

REACTIONS ARE MORE COMMON AFTER THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DOSE, INCLUDING HEADACHES, FATIGUE, MUSCLE SORENESS AND JOINT PAIN. MOST PEOPLE WILL HAVE A STRONGER REACTION TO THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DOSE THAN THE 1<sup>ST</sup>.



We recommend you **stay at the vaccination clinic for at least 15 minutes after your shot** because, in rare cases (2 people per 100,000), allergic reactions may occur.

If an allergic reaction occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after the vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reaction immediately.

If you have any questions, speak to the person who is giving you the vaccine. If you have any symptoms (fever, cough, trouble breathing, loss of smell etc) call your CMC.