



## COVID-19 VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS



The Philippine Society of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (PSAAI) reassured the public that the benefits of COVID-19 vaccines “far outweigh” the potential risks of adverse reactions, as well as the risk of developing severe COVID-19 or death. The following key points were shared by PSAAI President and National Adverse Event Following Immunization Committee member Dr. Rommel Lobo:

- In general, vaccines are safe and effective. Vaccination saves lives.
- For the Filipinos, we will only give vaccines that are proven to be safe and effective. And vaccination is free and will be made available for all Filipinos starting with high-risk sectors such as health workers and then senior citizens
- Majority of COVID-19 vaccine adverse reactions are mild and can be managed with supportive care and with antihistamines.

### COMMON LOCAL



- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling in the area

#### TREATMENT

- Paracetamol
- Pain Reliever
- Cold Compress at Injection site

### COMMON SYSTEMIC



- Headache
- Fatigue
- Fever and Chills
- Muscle Pain
- Tiredness

#### TREATMENT

- Paracetamol
- Pain Reliever
- Cold Compress at Injection site
- Drink plenty of fluids

### LESS COMMON



#### ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Hives/ Swelling
- Coughing/Sneezing
- Itchy nose/ Itchy and Red Eyes

#### TREATMENT

- Anti-allergy medicines
- Continue maintenance medicines for asthma and allergic rhinitis

### RARE (ANAPHYLAXIS)



#### TWO OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Hives/ Swelling, Coughing/Sneezing, Vomiting/Tummy Aches
- Or fainting/low blood pressure
- Or choking
- Or difficulty in breathing

#### TREATMENT

- EPINEPHRINE intramuscular injection on mid outer thigh

- PSAAI has examined all relevant information to offer reassurance that the vaccines can be administered safely even to people with food or medication allergies.
- Healthcare practitioners should observe vaccinees for at least 30 minutes post-vaccination. While the risk of anaphylaxis is rare, it should be recognized and managed promptly.
- Anaphylaxis (or severe allergic reaction) is the only contraindication for some COVID-19 vaccines and healthcare practitioners who will be vaccinating against COVID-19 should be sufficiently trained to properly recognize and manage anaphylaxis.