THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND YOU

HC HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Promote. Preserve. Protect.

What to Expect After Getting the COVID-19 Vaccine

COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19.
Side effects may occur as your body builds protection.

Common Side Effects after Vaccination

On the arm where you got the shot: Pain and Swelling.

- To reduce symptoms: Apply a clean, cool cloth/pack and use or exercise your arm

Throughout the rest of your body: Fevers, Chills, Tiredness, Headache

- To reduce symptoms: Drink plenty of fluids and dress lightly;
  Talk with your doctor about ibuprofen or acetaminophen

Contact Your Doctor

In most cases, discomfort from fever or pain is normal and goes away in a few days.

Call or see your doctor if:

- redness or tenderness where you got the shot increases after 24 hours
- side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days

Continue to Make Healthy Decisions

- Side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but should go away in a few days.
- Even if you have side effects with the first shot, it is very important to get the second shot for COVID-19 vaccine to work best, unless your doctor tells you not to get the second shot.
- It takes a few weeks after your first and second COVID-19 vaccinations for your body to build full protection.
- Even after being vaccinated, continue to wear masks, social distance and wash hands.

My second dose appointment is on: _____ @ _____

Visit **hchealth.org** or call 410.313.6284 for more information.