**The Norman Knight Nursing Center
for Clinical & Professional Development**

PCAs Quick Reference: COVID-19 VACCINE

Safe and effective vaccines is the most promising way of ending the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, MGH has access to 2 different vaccines and has already offered it to all hospital employees who are working on site.
Each vaccine must be administered in 2 dose that are either 21 or 28 days apart. Once you receive your first vaccine, you will be scheduled at that time for your 2nd dose.

The vaccine is not mandatory, but the goal is to have *all* employees vaccinated unless there is a contraindication. If enough people get a vaccine the country will be able to reach "heard immunity", meaning that enough people are vaccinated to prevent the any further large scale spread of infection with COVID-19.

COMMON QUESTIONS:

Can I get COVID-19 from a vaccine?
No. The vaccines do not contain live virus and therefore cannot cause COVID-19. The first vaccines that are available cannot cause infection

 I have been infected with/exposed to COVID-19. Can I still get the vaccine?
Yes. You may still get the COVID-19 vaccine if you have already been infected, however you must have recovered from illness and be cleared for return to work before you can schedule an appointment in COVID Pass.

How effective will the vaccines be?
The Pfizer vaccine showed a 95% effectiveness 7 days after the second dose. The Moderna vaccine showed a 94% effectiveness 14 days after the second dose. These results are the same across gender, age, race and ethnicity.

What are the side effects from the vaccine?
The most common reported symptoms from the Pfizer vaccine have been minor pain at the injection site. Other side effects reported are, feeling tired, headache, muscle pain, joint pain and chills. All of these are minor and go away quickly.For more information View the post-vaccination tip sheet.

The information contained in the Quick Reference Guide is Current as of January 12, 2021.