

TO: YNHHS MEDICAL, NURSING, AND PHARMACY STAFF

FROM: YNHHS COVID-19 VACCINE CLINICAL ADVISORY GROUP

SUBJECT: COVID -19 VACCINATION FOR HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS WHEN THE SECOND DOSE OF AN MRNA COVID-19 VACCINE IS DUE

DATE: MARCH 2, 2021

S: There is a need to provide guidance for inpatients who have received a prior mRNA COVID-19 vaccine and who are hospitalized when their second vaccine dose is due.

B: The current mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (i.e., Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines) are a 2 dose vaccine series.

The second dose is scheduled at the time when the first dose is given. Given the time between period between the first and second doses (21 days for the Pfizer mRNA vaccine and 28 days for the Moderna mRNA vaccine), occasionally, patients may be hospitalized when they are due for the second dose. Consequently, staff have inquired whether such a patient could receive their second dose during their acute care inpatient stay or prior to discharge.

A: Due to the current restraints on the supply for such second doses as well as the possible side effects post-vaccination which could mimic other conditions in the acute care setting, the second dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine should be deferred to after discharge.

R: The following guidance is recommended for patients if they are hospitalized when the second dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is due:

- The second dose should be administered after discharge. Per CDC guidance, patients may receive the second dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine 6 weeks after the first dose.
- Delaying the second dose to after discharge will avoid any potential issues of vaccine side effects mimicking symptoms of the patient's acute illness which could in turn delay discharge prolonging hospital stay.
- To facilitate rescheduling of their appointment for the second dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine for patients who have received their first dose with YNHHS, contact the YNHHS Call Center at: (833)-ASK-YNHHS.
- If the patient did not receive their first dose with YNHHS, then the patient and/or family should contact the clinic or provider who administered the first dose for assistance in rescheduling the second dose.