March 15, 2021

Delayed local reactions with Moderna vaccine

REMINDER: Delayed Local Reactions Due to COVID-19 Vaccinations with Moderna

Some patients may experience a delayed localized injection site reactions, ≈8 days post vaccination. Reactions including erythema, induration and tenderness, will typically resolved within 4 to 5 days without the use of antibiotics. They are not characterized by systemic symptoms and do not increase the risk of anaphylaxis with future vaccination.

The reactions have been reported to occur after vaccinating with the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. If an individual has experienced a delayed local reaction in the past, they may still receive vaccines in the future. There is a decreased frequency of delayed local reactions following the second dose of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

When providing the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, include counselling to patients about delayed local reactions and reassure all individuals that the reaction is benign and self-limited.

Delayed local reactions should be reported as an Adverse Event Following Immunization. Please use the provincial AEFI Reporting Form. Completed forms can be submitted to Toronto Public Health via email to AEFI@toronto.ca or faxed to 416-696-3492.

For more information: