BOWEN HILLS
MEDICAL CENTRE

After your COVID-19 vaccination - Pfizer Covid-19

Today you have received the **Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine**.

This vaccine can prevent people from becoming ill from COVID-19. It does not contain any live virus, and it cannot give you COVID-19.

As with any vaccine, you may have some side effects after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Common adverse events following immunisation:

- Pain or swelling at the injection site
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Fevers and chills
- Joint pain

Less Common adverse events following immunisation:

- Redness at the injection site
- Nausea
- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Itching at the injection site
- Feeling unwell
- Pain in limb
- Insomnia

Rare adverse events following immunisation: (typically start within a few days after vaccination)**:**

- Pericarditis
- Myocarditis

if experiencing any of the following symptoms seek prompt medical attention):

- Chest pain, pressure or discomfort
- Palpitations (irregular heartbeat, skipped beats or fluttering)
- Fainting (syncope)
- Shortness of breath
- Pain with breathing

Common side effects are usually mild and usually go away within one or two days. If you experience pain at the injection site or fever, headaches, or body aches after vaccination, you can take paracetamol or ibuprofen. These helps reduce the above symptoms. If there is swelling at the injection site, you can use a cold compress.

Some recipients will experience more significant flu-like symptoms from this vaccination compared to other common vaccinations and may require time away from normal activities. These symptoms may occur after either dose but are more common after the second dose.

You should seek medical attention after vaccination if:

• You think you are having an allergic reaction. Call 000 if you experience severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing, wheezing, a fast heartbeat or collapsing.

• You have an expected side effect of the vaccine which has not gone away after a few days. For symptoms which are not urgent, you can see your regular healthcare provider (usually your GP).

Remember your second appointment. It is important that you receive two doses (at least 3 weeks apart) of the **Pfizer** Covid-19 Vaccine. Maximum protection against COVID-19 will not occur until at least a week after your second dose.