



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Sender name: <MS HAN>

Date: <05/28/2021> Pages <1> of <4> (including this page)

Subject: <Increased Cases of Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines among Adolescents and Young Adults >

This is an official
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Alert

MESSAGE ID: MSHAN-20210528-00520-ALT (Health Alert)

RECIPIENTS: All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, and
Healthcare Providers – Statewide

Friday, May 28, 2021

SUBJECT: Increased Cases of Myocarditis and Pericarditis after
Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines among
Adolescents and Young Adults

Dear colleagues,

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is reporting increased cases of myocarditis and pericarditis since April 2021 reported after mRNA COVID-19 vaccinations, particularly in older adolescents (16 and older) and young adults.
- Reported cases are predominantly among male adolescents and young adults 16 years of age and older.
- Onset has been within several days after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination; more so after second dose.
- Most cases who have presented to medical care have had a rapid recovery and have responded well to medications and rest.
- An investigation by CDC into these rare reports is ongoing; a clear association has not yet been established.
- No similar increases have been seen post receipt of Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.
- In Mississippi, more than 1.8 million doses of mRNA vaccine have been administered.
- The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) is in the process of evaluating the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to identify potential myocarditis or pericarditis cases after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.

Mississippi Physician and Provider Recommendations:

- Consider myocarditis and pericarditis in adolescents or young adults with acute chest pain, shortness of breath, or palpitations.
- Ask about prior COVID-19 vaccination if you identify these symptoms or cases of myocarditis or pericarditis.



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- It is important to rule out other potential causes of myocarditis and pericarditis. Consider consultation with infectious disease and/or rheumatology to assist in this evaluation.
 - Where available, evaluate for potential etiologies of myocarditis and pericarditis, particularly acute COVID-19 infection (e.g., PCR testing), prior SARS-CoV-2 infection (e.g., detection of SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid antibodies), and other viral etiologies (e.g., enterovirus PCR and comprehensive respiratory viral pathogen testing).
- Report all cases of myocarditis and pericarditis post COVID-19 vaccine to VAERS ([VAERS - Report an Adverse Event \(hhs.gov\)](https://www.vaers.hhs.gov))
- Continue to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 12 years of age and older given the greater risk of other serious complications related to COVID-19, such as hospitalization, multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C), or death.

Please see the following CDC resources for additional information

- **Clinical Considerations:** [“Clinical Considerations: Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Among Adolescents and Young Adults”](#)
- **Public Content:** [“Myocarditis and Pericarditis Following mRNA COVID-19 Vaccination”](#)

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD
State Epidemiologist



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Alerting Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: Mississippi State Department of Health
Alerting Program: MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
Message Identifier: MSHAN-20210528-00520-ALT
Program (HAN) Type: Health Alert
Status (Type): Actual ()
Message Type: Alert
Reference: MSHAN-00520
Severity: Unknown
Acknowledgement: No
Sensitive: Not Sensitive
Message Expiration: Undetermined
Urgency: Undetermined
Delivery Time: 600 minutes

Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings

Originating Agency: A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.
Alerting Program: The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.
Message Identifier: A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory, UPD=Health Update, MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).
Program (HAN) Type: Categories of Health Alert Messages.
Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
Health Info Service: Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.
Status (Type):
 Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event
 Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
 Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

Message Type:

570 East Woodrow Wilson • Post Office Box 1700 • Jackson, MS 39215-1700
 601-576-8090 • 1-866-HLTHY4U • www.HealthyMS.com



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Alert: Indicates an original Alert
 Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
 Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
 Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:

Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
 Severe: Significant threat to life or property
 Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
 Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
 Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:

Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
 Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).

Dear Colleagues,

The CDC is reporting increases in myocarditis and pericarditis in predominantly male older adolescents (16 years and older) and younger adults after vaccination with an mRNA COVID-19 vaccinations; primarily several days after the second dose. CDC is conducting an ongoing investigation to determine if there is a clear association with the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. Please see the Health Alert from MSDH for additional details:

<https://msdh.ms.gov/han/14318.pdf>

Paul Byers, MD
 State Epidemiologist