

# COVID-19 VACCINE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: Will all SALMON Health and Retirement communities have access to the vaccine?**

**A:** Yes, all of our communities have registered to have the vaccine administered to employees.

**Q: Does SALMON recommend that employees get the vaccine?**

**A:** Yes, SALMON encourages employees to make an informed decision to receive the vaccine, which is proven to be 95% effective.

**Q: Will employees at SALMON be required to take the vaccine?**

**A:** At SALMON, we believe everyone should make educated decisions about the healthcare they receive. At this point, CMS and state governments have not mandated that healthcare workers take the vaccine in order to work in our communities. Therefore, SALMON is currently highly encouraging all employees to take the vaccine. We will continue to monitor the recommendations of CMS and individual states. Should the federal or any state government change its policy and require vaccination, SALMON will adjust its position accordingly to comply with government and legal guidelines.

**Q: When will the vaccinations start?**

**A:** For our skilled nursing and assisted living communities, the Federal program will start the week of December 28, 2020 and continue into January. Now is the time to receive this vaccine. If you do not elect to receive it during this time-frame, it will not be available to you again until late spring 2021. Each location will announce their site-specific schedule, so please be sure to check in with your campus for your designated time.

**Q: Who will administer vaccines to SALMON employees?**

**A:** All of our communities have registered to participate in the "Federal Pharmacy Partnership for COVID-19 Vaccination in Long-term Care Facilities." Our primary pharmacy partner, CVS Health, will be setting up clinics in each of our campus locations. Injection-certified pharmacists from CVS Health will administer the vaccines, similar to getting a flu shot at your local CVS Pharmacy. In some locations, local health departments may vaccinate employees if available.

**Q: Will more than one dose be required?**

**A:** The current FDA-approved vaccine requires two doses. It is imperative that both doses are administered in accordance with timelines provided by the manufacturer.

**Q: Are there any side effects I need to be concerned about?**

**A:** Up to 1 in 10 people will have short-term discomfort and may experience fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever and pain at the injection site after vaccination. These side effects are normal, common and expected.

**Q: Will people who have contracted COVID-19 still benefit from getting vaccinated?**

**A:** Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, people may be advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have been sick with COVID-19 before.

**Q: Will the vaccine give me COVID-19, alter my DNA, or cause me to test positive on a viral test?**

**A:** No.

**Q: Am I being injected with a live virus?**

**A:** No live virus is used; mRNA vaccine is a new type that will teach our cells how to make a protein—or even just a piece of a protein—that triggers an immune response inside our bodies. That immune response, which produces antibodies, is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

**GETTING VACCINATED CAN HELP YOU, YOUR FAMILY,  
AND OUR RESIDENTS PREVENT POSSIBLE COVID-19 INFECTION.**



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