The **COVID-19 Vaccine** works by making the immune system think your body has the disease, causing your body to produce an army of molecules called antibodies to stop the infection. **The vaccine has been rigorously tested, does not contain live virus, and does not affect or interact with a person's DNA. It is safe and effective.** You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) issued an Emergency Drug Authorization (EUA) for release of the vaccine on December 13th, 2020 for persons aged 16 year and older.

Administration: The vaccine treatment consists of 2 doses administered in your arm 3 weeks apart. You need to return for your second dose at the scheduled date and time.

Side Effects: Common side effects after receiving the vaccine are usually mild and usually occur within 3 days of vaccination. They usually go away within 1–2 days. Side effects are more likely to occur after the 2nd dose. Redness and/or pain at the injection site is the most common reaction.

Other side effects include:
- **Fever**
- **Fatigue**
- **Headache**
- **Chills**
- **Muscle Pain**
- **Pain in Joints**

If you have any of the following symptoms, you should stay out of work and call the **Vaccination Symptom Hotline Guidance and FAQ line at 617-636-4400.**

- Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher
- Symptoms from the above side effects list AND close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the 14 days before the symptoms started
- Symptoms from the above list lasting more than 3 days
- Symptoms that are NOT likely due to vaccination and could indicate COVID-19 or another infection are:
  - » Cough
  - » Shortness of breath
  - » Runny nose
  - » Sore throat
  - » Loss of taste or smell

Call 911 if you are having a medical emergency.

You can also help us track symptoms by using **V-SAFE**, the CDC's voluntary text message system. Learn more at **vsafe.CDC.gov** or use your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right:

Tufts Medical Center

Tufts Children's Hospital

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