HOW TO MONITOR & REPORT COVID-19 VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS
Health workers play a key role in ensuring the continued safety of COVID-19 vaccines

BEFORE VACCINATING

STEP ONE
ASK
if the person getting vaccinated has ever had a severe allergic reaction to a vaccine

If YES, refer the person to an allergy specialist or health provider, who will recommend next steps

STEP TWO
ASSESS
any health or medical conditions listed as precautions by the vaccine manufacturer or by your local immunization programme

These conditions may include:

- Pregnancy
- Compromised immune system
- Severe frailty among older persons

People with these conditions are eligible for vaccination, but should be offered information & counselling

STEP THREE
COMMUNICATE
common side effects after vaccination, which indicate that a person’s body is building protection to COVID-19

Common side effects include:

- Arm soreness
- Mild fever
- Tiredness
- Headaches
- Muscle or joint aches

STEP FOUR
VACCINATE

AFTER VACCINATING

STEP FIVE
OBSERVE
the vaccinated person for 15 minutes – tell them how & where to report severe reactions

- Observe people with a past vaccine allergy for 30 minutes, after they have been approved by a specialist (step 1)

STEP SIX
INFORM
your supervisor immediately of any unexpected or severe reactions during the observation period or reported later

- Complete an electronic or paper Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) form, available online at investigation.gvsi-aefi-tools.org
- Health officials will then investigate the event

It’s extremely rare for severe health reactions to be directly caused by vaccines. But reporting & investigating adverse events will ensure that COVID-19 vaccines continue to meet high safety standards.
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