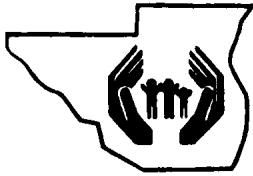


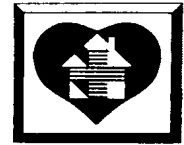
Pike County Health Department

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HomeCare



Across Illinois

News Release COVID-19 Vaccine Given in Pike County, IL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 2020

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Pittsfield, IL – Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for the COVID-19 virus arrived in Pike County on December 16, 2020. Pike County Health Department (PCHD) was given enough vaccine from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to administer 45 vaccinations. Vaccinations were given in a hospital setting due to the possibility of adverse reactions. PCHD partnered with Illini Community Hospital to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. Most vaccinations were given with no adverse reactions other than the minor side effects that can be expected with most other vaccines.

Side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine include: injection site pain, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, injection site swelling, injection site redness, nausea, feeling unwell, swollen lymph nodes.

There is a remote chance that the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction would usually occur within a few minutes to one hour after getting a dose of the vaccine. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include: difficulty breathing, swelling of your face and throat, a fast heartbeat, a bad rash all over your body, dizziness and weakness.

Another vaccine for COVID-19 was approved for emergency use authorization (EUA) last week. PCHD will know more about distribution of the Moderna vaccine later this week and will be working with the appropriate individuals on getting vaccinated.

Per IDPH direction, anyone vaccinated in week 2 should still be in Phase 1A per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations. Those include individuals who have the highest potential risk for exposure to the COVID-19 virus. Doses of the vaccine must still be used for the following:

1. Healthcare workers in hospitals and other health care settings, such as Dental.
2. Priority groups including: Emergency Medical Service staff; Clinic Providers/Clinicians; individuals distributing the vaccine (pharmacists, plasma and blood donation, public health, and emergency preparedness workers); and morticians/ funeral home workers.

For updates on Pike County COVID-19 cases, please go to our website at <https://www.pikecountyil.org/health-department/health-departmentpress-releases/>

For general questions about the COVID-19 virus, call 1-800-889-3931.

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