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Message Urgency: **HIGH**

This message is being sent via the Louisiana Department of Health Emergency Operations Center (LDH EOC) for all Louisiana Health Alert Network (LA HAN) recipients and Primary Care Healthcare Professionals. This message is from LDH regarding **Reports of Myocarditis/ Pericarditis Occurring After COVID-19 Vaccination With Either the Pfizer or Moderna Vaccines**. Please read the message below and share with relevant stakeholders and partners through your own distribution channels.

Reports of Myocarditis/Pericarditis Occurring After COVID-19 Vaccination With Either the Pfizer or Moderna Vaccines

In recent weeks, there have been reports of myocarditis occurring after COVID-19 vaccination, including in Europe, where the [EMA recently requested data from Pfizer and Moderna on reports of myocarditis and pericarditis after vaccination](#). CDC is aware of these reports, which are **rare** given the number of vaccine doses administered and continues to monitor available data.

Myocarditis is the inflammation of the heart muscle and pericarditis is the inflammation of the lining outside the heart. In both cases, the body's immune system is causing inflammation in response to an infection or some other trigger. While myocarditis can be serious, it is frequently mild and self-limited. Symptoms can include abnormal heart rhythms, shortness of breath, or chest pain.

As part of COVID-19 vaccine safety efforts, we have been closely monitoring myocarditis/pericarditis in multiple safety systems, including the [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#) and the [Vaccine Safety Datalink \(VSD\)](#).

To date, there has not been a safety signal identified in either VAERS or VSD. CDC will continue to evaluate reports of myocarditis/pericarditis occurring after COVID-19 vaccination and will share more information as it becomes available. Healthcare providers should consider myocarditis in an evaluation of chest pain after vaccination and [report all cases to VAERS](#).

CDC continues to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for people 12 years and older.

Please report any clinically significant myocarditis or pericarditis in an individual who received either the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccine to the Louisiana Department of Health Infectious Disease Epidemiology Clinician Hotline: 800-256-2748.