

**What is the situation for the COVID-19 vaccine on base?**

The Vance Clinic received two hundred COVID-19 vaccine doses Jan.14, and will continue to receive more over the coming months at a steady tempo.

The Defense Health Agency distribution process includes strict guidance for vaccine rollout and availability. First responders, defenders and medical staff received the vaccine first. Vance Public Affairs will post updates and announcements as each phase of the vaccination rollout commences via the website, marquee and base-wide email.

When it's your turn to receive the vaccine, you may be contacted by your chain of command or our Vance medics. They will let you know when and where to report for your show time. This contact will be based on your response in your DHA207.

Please refrain from visiting the Vance immunization clinic to check on availability.

**Which vaccine does Vance have? Is it two doses or one?**

The Vance clinic is currently offering the Moderna vaccine which requires two doses, with the second dose scheduled for 28 days after the first.

**Who can receive the vaccine on base?**

Anyone with base access over the age of 18 may receive the vaccine through the Vance Clinic within their designated phase. The state of Oklahoma is offering the COVID-19 vaccine to certain individuals before it is available on base. For more information on where you can get vaccinated off base, [vaccinate.oklahoma.gov](https://vaccinate.oklahoma.gov).

**Will the current COVID-19 Vaccine(s) protect me from new strains of COVID?**

At this time, the vaccines being administered are effective at protecting against emerging variant strains (UK, South Africa & Brazil). As more strains become identified, it is possible that the current vaccines may not be as effective, which is why it is important to prevent further infections via mask wear, physical distancing and vaccinations as they become available. For more information, visit the CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/science-and-research/scientific-brief-emerging-variants.html>

**After I receive the vaccine, do I still have to stay home if I interact with a COVID individual?**

Yes. Per Vance AFB protocol, if you are exposed to an individual who tested positive for the coronavirus, you still have to quarantine for 14 days. As more people are vaccinated, there should be less coronavirus positive personnel and less close contacts.

**Is the vaccine painful?**

Some people may suffer from arm pain after the injection in addition to other common vaccine side effects. These symptoms mean your body is building an immunity against a future infection. For a list of common side effects and instructions on what to do after you receive a COVID-19 vaccine click here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.html>

**Will the vaccine cause me to test positive on a COVID-19 test?**

No. You will not test positive due to receiving your vaccine. For more information, visit the Centers for Disease Control website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

**I was positive in the past. When can I receive the vaccine?**

At the Vance Clinic, you may receive the vaccine 90 days after recovery from COVID-19 infection. The 90-day gap is due to your immunity after contracting the coronavirus, and allows other personnel to receive the vaccine who are at risk.

If you get vaccinated off base, this protocol may differ. Consult your physician if you have any questions.

**I've recovered, but came into close contact with someone who's sick with COVID now. Do I need to quarantine and test again?**

You will still be required to stay home and quarantine. You will not be tested at the end of your quarantine if you had COVID in the last 90 days and you are symptom free. This Vance protocol is intentionally more stringent than CDC protocol.

**Is the vaccine mandatory?**

No, but your Vance AFB medical team highly recommends it to prevent future infections.

**I'm a flyer. Am I able to fly after I receive the vaccine?**

You may return to the cockpit 48 hours after receiving the vaccine.

**Will beneficiaries missing the booster shot window due to vaccine availability have to start process over, incurring an additional shot and DNIF period?**

No, unless the timeframe is egregious. Commanders should contact the medical group with any questions about specific personnel.

**Are there any known or suspected impacts to fertility?**

No. There is no evidence to indicate that there would be any impact on a fetus or any impact on someone's ability to conceive, or on breastfeeding or pregnancy.

**Can I trust the vaccine, especially since it was created so fast?**

Yes. The process used to create the COVID-19 vaccine has been around for decades. More safety information can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html>. For detailed information about the science behind the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the Centers for Disease Control website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/mrna.html>.

**Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed?**

As always, if you are exposed to someone who has had COVID-19 recently or if you currently have COVID-19 symptoms (fever or chills, cough or sore throat, shortness of breath, congestion or runny nose, muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea); call Vance Public Health for a phone evaluation at PHONE: 580-213-6643 or 580-213-7416 option 1, 1 (Vance Appointment Line), or contact your primary doctor or clinic off base.

**NOTE:** Vance protocols for COVID-19 may vary from or be more stringent than recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control or the Local Health Department in order to prioritize mission safety and effectiveness. Contact Vance Clinic POC, [patricia.g.baker8.mil@mail.mil](mailto:patricia.g.baker8.mil@mail.mil), for questions.