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](http://vsafe.CDC.gov) or use your smartphone’s camera to scan the QR code to the right: