

# After Care Sheet

## IMVAMUNE (smallpox/mpox) vaccine.

### WHAT SHOULD I DO RIGHT AFTER RECEIVING THE VACCINE?

- Wait for at least 15 minutes after receiving your vaccine. Longer waiting times of 30 minutes may be recommended if there is concern about a possible vaccine allergy. Though uncommon, fainting or allergic reactions can occur after vaccination. Symptoms of an allergic reaction include hives (bumps on the skin that are often very itchy), swelling of your face, tongue or throat, or difficulty breathing. The clinic staff are prepared to manage these symptoms should they occur.
- Immediately inform a health-care provider at the clinic if you feel unwell while waiting. Do not leave the clinic if you are feeling unwell.
- Be sure to adhere to Public Health measures as advised.
- Do not operate a vehicle or other form of transportation for at least 15 to 30 minutes after being vaccinated (as advised by the health-care provider) or if you are feeling unwell.

### WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS?

- Side effects can develop in the days after receiving the vaccine. Although most of these side effects are not serious to your health,

they may make you feel unwell for a few days; they will go away on their own.

- The most common side effect is pain where the needle was injected; swelling, redness or itching at the injection site may also occur. A cool, damp cloth or wrapped ice pack applied to the impacted area may help.
- Other symptoms may include fatigue, headache, muscle aches/pain, chills, and nausea.
- If needed, pain medication (such as acetaminophen) may help. Check with your health-care provider or public health services in your community if you need advice about medication.
- Serious side effects after receiving the vaccine are rare. However, should you develop any serious symptoms or symptoms that could be an allergic reaction, call 9-1-1 right away. Symptoms of an allergic reaction include:
  - Hives (bumps on the skin that are often very itchy)
  - Swelling of the face, tongue, or throat
  - Difficulty breathing

- Seek medical care immediately if you develop symptoms that could indicate heart inflammation (myocarditis/pericarditis) such as:
  - Chest pain or discomfort
  - Shortness of breath
  - Fast or irregular heartbeat
- If you have any concerns about the symptoms you develop after receiving the vaccine, contact your health-care provider or public health services in your community for advice. Any serious side effects after vaccination should be reported to your local public health department.
- If you were advised to receive an additional dose of IMVAMUNE vaccine, tell the person providing the next dose about any side effects you experienced.

### **WHEN SHOULD I RETURN FOR MY NEXT DOSE OF VACCINE?.**

- If you require a second dose and are due for an mRNA vaccine within that timeframe, please discuss this with your primary care provider or Public Health staff to determine how these vaccines should be scheduled.
- Bring your immunization record with you for your next dose and tell the person providing the vaccine about any side effects you experienced after previous doses.

### **THINGS TO REMEMBER:**

- If you are to receive other vaccines, inform your health-care provider or public health services in your community.
- If possible, wait at least two weeks after vaccination or completing your vaccination series before starting drugs that suppress your immune system, as recommended by your health-care provider or public health services in your community.
- Keep this sheet or other immunization record in a safe place.