

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for COVID-19 Vaccination

If you are planning to take the COVID-19 vaccination, do note the following recommendations and advisories on mammogram screening.

1.	What is the effect of the Covid-19 vaccination on mammogram screening? It has been reported that the vaccination may cause enlarged/swollen lymph nodes at the underarm area on the vaccinated side and may lead to false positive mammogram results. Nonetheless, this swelling may not happen to everyone as it depends on an individual's immune system and its reaction to the vaccine.
2.	Is it advisable to take the Covid-19 vaccination before or after a mammogram? Some people may experience enlarged/swollen lymph nodes after the Covid-19 vaccination, and this may affect the interpretation of the mammogram results. While not everyone will experience post-vaccine symptoms, women are encouraged to schedule their mammogram appointment <u>before</u> the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccination or at least <u>four to six weeks</u> after the final vaccine dose.
3.	How long after the mammogram should I wait to take the Covid-19 vaccination? You may take the vaccine any time after your mammogram.
4.	What should I do if I have done my mammogram during my Covid-19 vaccination cycle? While some may develop swollen lymph nodes in the underarm area, not everyone experiences the same symptoms. It depends on individual's immune system and its response to the vaccine. If it is necessary for you to go for further tests to confirm your mammogram findings, your healthcare provider will make arrangements with you for follow up.
5.	What should I do if I feel something on my breast or underarm area and I am not certain whether it is related to my recent vaccination? If you have any presenting breast problem (e.g. lump, nipple discharge), please consult your doctor immediately for medical attention regardless of whether you have had any vaccination done.