Administration of Routine Vaccinations to COVID-19 Patients

Should vaccinations, including the flu shot be postponed if a patient has COVID-19?

Routine vaccination visits should be postponed for people who are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, regardless of symptoms.

While it is generally okay to get a routine vaccine when mildly ill, vaccination visits should be delayed for those who have or think they have COVID-19 to avoid exposing healthcare personnel and other patients to the virus that causes COVID-19.

When scheduling or confirming an appointment for vaccination, people should:

Notify their provider's office before their visit if they have or develop any symptoms of COVID-19. Someone who has symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 should follow CDC recommendations for home isolation. They should reschedule their appointment once they meet criteria to discontinue home isolation.

When can a COVID positive patient be vaccinated?

Once the isolation period is over, they can be vaccinated. Ensuring that routine vaccination is maintained or restarted during the COVID-19 pandemic is essential for protecting people and their community from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks.

If someone is already in a healthcare setting under medical care, they might be able to receive routine vaccinations even if they are suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. If they are no more than mildly ill and there are no medical reasons not to vaccinate, they can be vaccinated. Examples of these healthcare settings would be hospitals or nursing homes.
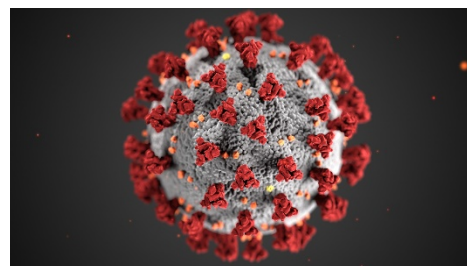
Additional information on providing routine vaccination during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found on the CDC website: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pandemic-guidance/index.html.

Maine Centers for Disease Control
Maine Immunization Program
207-287-3746
www.ImmunizeME.org