

**Type of Communication:**

**Medicine Safety Week**

**Identification Number:**

**FDA/CSD/CPE/PRS/21/18**

**For Immediate Release:**

**1<sup>st</sup> November 2021**

**MAKING VACCINES BETTER FOR EVERYONE: REPORT SUSPECTED SIDE EFFECTS**

The Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) launches a weeklong social media campaign to sensitize the public on the importance of reporting suspected side effects of vaccines to the Authority following vaccination. This campaign comes at a crucial time when millions of people are being vaccinated against COVID-19.

Taking place from 1–7 November 2021, the sixth annual [#MedSafetyWeek](#) social media campaign will focus on vaccines. Regulators from 65 countries are encouraging healthcare professionals, national immunisation programme staff, as well as patients, their caregivers and families, to report any side effects of vaccines, including COVID-19 jabs.

This weeklong campaign will provide accurate and up to date information to the general public and healthcare professionals on how to report side effects and other safety issues to the FDA.

Vaccines are the best way to protect individuals against infectious diseases and have already saved millions of lives. Like all medicines, vaccines could have side effects. Reporting suspected side effects helps to identify new adverse reactions and gain more information about known side effects.

Every report counts! Therefore, healthcare professionals administering vaccines are especially encouraged to discuss potential side effects with patients and encourage them to report any side effects to help the FDA monitor the safe use of vaccines to protect public health through effective regulation.

All concerns and communication on this as well as any FDA related issue should be channelled through the following contacts:

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