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## Suggested script for dermatologists to encourage patients to receive the COVID vaccine

As your dermatologist, I want to encourage you to receive the COVID vaccine as soon as it is available to you. The vaccine is effective, safe, and you cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.<sup>1,2</sup> Although the technology through which the vaccine was developed is new, the biologic basis is sound and has been studied for influenza, zika, and rabies vaccines.<sup>3,4</sup> An engineered molecule of messenger RNA (mRNA) is the basis of the currently approved vaccine. The injected mRNA will direct the body's cells to create a protein associated with the virus.<sup>3,4</sup> Your body will recognize this protein as an alien and trigger a specific immune response to produce antibodies. This immune response, similar to any vaccine administration, would serve to prepare your immune system to attack the virus should you be exposed. After having received the vaccine, if you are exposed to the COVID virus, you may experience a very mild case or not get sick at all.

Common side effects to the vaccine may include some malaise, soreness at the injection site, and even a mild fever, but these symptoms are transient and typically resolves in 24-48 hours.<sup>5</sup> The symptoms are indicative of your body building immune defenses against the virus. Thus, the vaccine will assist your body in developing protective immunity without getting the illness. Getting vaccinated is one of many steps you can take to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and is critically important to protect you and those around you by reducing the spread of the virus.<sup>6</sup>

## Suggested script for dermatologists advising patients on biologics to receive COVID vaccine

I know the drugs you are taking for your disease (disease type) are immunomodulating drugs. Evidence to date suggests that most individuals on biologic treatment can be successfully immunized with no increased incidence of adverse effects. "The CDC does not consider COVID-19 vaccine to be contraindicated in persons taking biologic or traditional immunosuppressive medications, hedgehog pathway inhibitors, and PD1 inhibitors".\* So, it is important that you receive the vaccine to enhance your body's immune response to the virus.<sup>7</sup>

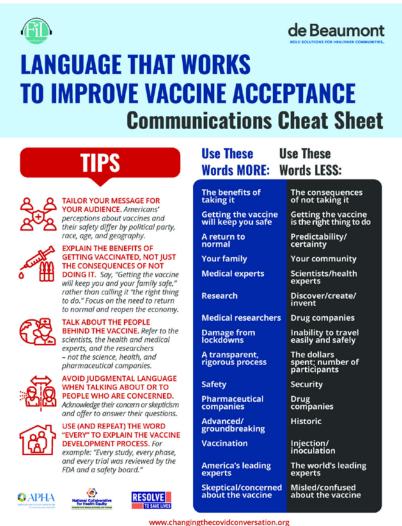
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Language to improve COVID-19 vaccine acceptance available on page 2.

<sup>\*</sup> Based on personal communication with Sarah Schillie from the CDC Clinical Inquiries Team 01/15/2021

## Suggested script for dermatologists advising people with cosmetic fillers to receive COVID vaccine

I realize you have received some cosmetic fillers in the past. I want you to be aware that there have been some rare cases of swelling in fillers in patients who have received the COVID vaccine.8 This has also been observed rarely in individuals receiving other vaccines. The swelling is transient, usually resolves in 24-48 hours, and can be treated successfully. None of the reported cases were considered life-threatening and no long-term complications have been observed. Therefore, having a history of fillers should not prevent you from getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

† Language to improve COVID-19 vaccine acceptance



www.changingthecovidconversation.org

Received copyright to re-publish. Language That Works to Improve Vaccine Acceptance. https://www.debeaumont.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/VaccineToolkit\_1pger.pdf Updated 1/25/2021. Accessed 1/25/2021

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