



Dear Mr Test Smith

## Please help monitor COVID-19 vaccine safety

I am writing to ask for your help to monitor the safety of your COVID-19 vaccine.

You have been randomly invited from those eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine to take part in a national programme to help monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

This programme is run by the UK's independent regulator, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

## Why we monitor vaccines

Vaccines are the most effective way to prevent infectious diseases and they save millions of lives worldwide. Like all medicines, vaccines can cause side effects. Most are mild and short-term, and not everyone gets them. Some side effects can come to light when used by a larger number of people than took part in clinical trials.

## How you can help

Please sign up to our programme – the Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor, and have an email address ready to hand to register.

- Register with our website before you receive your vaccine at
   https://vaccinemonitor-yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk or scan the QR code at the
   end of this letter and click 'Sign in or register'. If you have already had your
   vaccine, you can still sign up. If necessary, a family member can do this on
   your behalf.
- Note your vaccine name and batch number, if you can.
- **Read** the patient information leaflet carefully as it includes the known possible side-effects, this is available on our website.
- Learn more about vaccines from the enclosed Public Health England leaflet.

The website will give more information on what will happen after you register.

## What we will do with reports of side effects

The Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor is part of our long-established UK system for collecting and monitoring information about suspected safety concerns involving medicines, vaccines and medical devices.

A team of safety experts that includes doctors, pharmacists and scientists continually evaluates reports of suspected side effects.

They consider other information, such as medical literature and data from international medicines regulators to help ensure that the benefits of the vaccine continue to outweigh any risks.

If you need help to register, please ask a friend, family member or carer to sign up and report on your behalf. Or contact our customer service team on **0800 731 6789** who can help. Please note that we are not involved in booking vaccination appointments and cannot assist with any telephone calls about this.

Taking part is voluntary and will not impact your booking to get vaccinated. If you feel you are unable to take part, that is fine – there is no need to let us know.

I hope you will be able to support us. By doing so you will directly help our continuous safety monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Branch

Dr Sarah Branch
Director of Vigilance & Risk Management of Medicines

Scan the QR code below to sign up on the Yellow Card Vaccine Monitor website





If you would like an **easy read** version of this letter, please go to our website and click 'Resources'.

