

Nigerians Report Common Side Effects of Covid-19 Vaccine after the Vaccination

Ibrahim Ahmad Abubakar*

Department of Physiotherapy, Headquarters, 3 Division Nigerian Army Medical Service and Hospitals, Plateau, NIGERIA.

Dear Editor,

Sir, following the enforcement of COVID-19 lockdown in 2020 by the government of Nigeria to curb the spread of COVID-19 in the country, procurement of COVID-19 vaccine by the Federal government of Nigeria is their priority to end this pandemic. For its safety and effectiveness use in Nigeria, Feng-Cai Zhu and colleagues reported the safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of a recombinant adenovirus type-5 (Ad5) vectored COVID-19 vaccine in their dose escalation, single-centre, open-label, phase 1 trial published in The Lancet.^[1]

A study documented by Riad *et al* showed that out of 922 who were vaccinated in Czech Republic, 814(93.1%) participants reported having at least one side effect following the COVID-19 vaccine. The most common side effect was injection site pain (89.8%), followed by fatigue (62.2%), headache (45.6%), muscle pain (37.1%), and chills (33.9%).^[2] Most of the people in Nigeria experience side effects after the vaccine but these are usually mild and are much less serious than developing coronavirus or its complications, the side effects usually disappear within a few days and is because the immune system is responding well to the vaccine. The most common reported side effect by Nigerians following vaccination is pain at the injection site. Some of the common side effects includes: tenderness, swelling and/or redness at the injection site, headache, muscle ache, fatigue, fever (temperature above 37.8°C). A rarely less common side effect is swelling of the lymph nodes (axillary lymphadenopathy) which may last up to 2 weeks.

A finding shown by Szmyd *et al*, who reported the fear of side effects was the most prominent reason to decrease the readiness of healthcare workers and students in Poland to accept the vaccination.^[3] So also Nigerians tend to refuse the COVID-19 vaccine because of the fear of its side effects.

In conclusion, Nigerians shows mild side effects in response to the COVID-19 vaccine which may last for few days and disappear, these includes, pain at injection site, headache, fever, fatigue, chills and rarely a palpable axillary lymphadenopathy. Because of the side effects following the COVID-19 Vaccination, Citizens of Nigeria tends to refuse the vaccination.

REFERENCES

1. Zhu FC, Li YH, Guan XH, Hou LH, Wang WJ, Li JX, *et al*. Safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity of a recombinant adenovirus type-5 vectored COVID-19 vaccine: a dose-escalation, open-label, non-randomised, first-in-human trial. *Lancet*. 2020;395(10240):1845-54. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(20)31208-3, PMID 32450106.
2. Riad A, Pokorná A, Attia S, Klugarová J, Koščík M, Klugar M. Prevalence of COVID-19 Vaccine Side Effects among Healthcare Workers in the Czech Republic. *J Clin Med*. 2021;10(7):1428. doi: 10.3390/jcm10071428, PMID 33916020.
3. Szmyd B, Karuga FF, Bartoszek A, Staniecka K, Siwecka N, Bartoszek A, Błaszczyk M, *et al*. Attitude and behaviors towards SARS-CoV-2 vaccination among healthcare workers: A cross-sectional study from Poland. *Vaccines*. 2021;9(3):218. doi: 10.3390/vaccines9030218, PMID 33806641.

Received: 10 April 2021;

Accepted: 27 June 2021

*Correspondence to:

Ibrahim Ahmad Abubakar

Department of Physiotherapy, Headquarters, 3 Division Nigerian Army Medical Services and Hospital, Plateau state, Nigeria.

Phone no: +2348029819190.

Email id: ibrahimesskd@gmail.com

Copyright: © the author(s), publisher and licensee OZZIE Publishers. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License, which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 License

ACCESS THIS ARTICLE ONLINE



WWW.AMDHS.ORG

DOI :
10.5530/amdhs.2021.1.2

Cite this article as: Abubakar IA. Nigerians Report Common Side Effects of Covid-19 Vaccine after the Vaccination *Adv. Med. Dental Health Sci.* 2021;4(1):8.