

### Adverse Event Information Sheet

#### What is an Adverse Event?

An adverse event is a health problem that happens after vaccination that may or may not be caused by a vaccine. Adverse events reported to VAERS are not necessarily side effects caused by vaccination.

### What system is used to track adverse events?

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is a system that helps CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) monitor health problems that may occur following vaccination.

Anyone can submit a report to VAERS including health care professionals, vaccine manufacturers, vaccine recipients, and parents or family members of people who have received a vaccine.

VAERS is not designed to detect if a vaccine caused an adverse event, but it can help identify if there are possible safety problems requiring a closer look.

# If you think you are experiencing an adverse event:

IF YOU SUSPECT IT IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY PLEASE DIAL 911 OR REPORT TO THE NEAREST EMERGENCY MEDICAL CENTER.

- 1. Call your health care provider for medical assistance regarding your reaction.
- 2. Submit a report of your event to VAERS here: <a href="https://vaers.hhs.gov/">https://vaers.hhs.gov/</a>

# **Getting Your Questions Answered**

If you have concerns or need advice about side effects or believe you are having an adverse reaction and want to speak to someone about it, please call the Vaccine Safety Hotline at **1-877-603-0170**. It is available 24/7 to answer your questions and provide advice.