# VAERS

Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System

*A National Program for Monitoring Vaccine Safety*

## Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), is a national program managed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to monitor the safety of all vaccines licensed in the United States. VAERS collects and reviews reports of adverse events that occur after vaccination. An "adverse event" is any health problem or "side effect" that happens after a vaccination. VAERS cannot determine if a vaccine caused an adverse event, but can determine if further investigation is needed.

### VAERS provides valuable information

VAERS is an early-warning system that detects problems possibly related to vaccines. The system relies on reports from healthcare providers*, vaccine manufacturers, and the general public. Reporting gives CDC and FDA important information to identify health concerns and ensure vaccines are safe in order to protect the public's health.

### VAERS staff evaluate reports of adverse events

VAERS defines a "serious adverse event" as life-threatening illness, hospitalization, prolongation of an existing hospitalization, permanent disability or death. Once adverse events are identified using VAERS, they may be monitored in other immunization safety systems to confirm if a particular adverse event is related to a vaccination and identify any specific risk factors.

### Anyone can report to VAERS

Anyone can submit a report to VAERS, including patients, family members, healthcare providers, vaccine manufacturers and the general public. CDC and FDA encourage anyone who experiences an adverse event after receiving a vaccine to report to VAERS.

### How to report to VAERS

You can report to VAERS online at https://vaers.hhs.gov/index.

For further assistance reporting to VAERS, visit https://vaers.hhs.gov/index or contact VAERS directly at info@VAERS.org or 1-800-822-7967.

### VAERS data are available to the public

VAERS data can be downloaded at https://vaers.hhs.gov/data/index or searched at http://wonder.cdc.gov/vaers.html. Privacy is protected and personal identifying information (such as name, date of birth and address) is removed from the public data.

**For more information about VAERS:**

E-mail: info@vaers.org

Phone: 1-800-822-7967

Web site: www.vaers.hhs.gov

*Healthcare providers are encouraged to report all clinically significant adverse events after vaccination to VAERS even if it is uncertain whether the vaccine caused the event. They are also required to report to VAERS adverse events found in the Reportable Events Table (RET) at https://vaers.hhs.gov/resources/VAERS_Table_of_Reportable_Events_Following_Vaccination.pdf

FACT SHEET

CS267401