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Updated information from the Danish Medicines Agency on your COVID-19 vaccination

We are sending this letter to you because you have received the AstraZeneca vaccine for COVID-19 within the last 14 days.

The Danish Medicines Agency together with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the other drug regulatory authorities in the EU are investigating the AstraZeneca vaccine following reports in Europe about people who have experienced low platelet counts in the blood, bleeding and blood clots after they received the AstraZeneca vaccine. At present, there is no evidence to conclude that these incidents are linked to the vaccine.

And for this very reason, we are asking you to be particularly alert. If you have been vaccinated with the AstraZeneca vaccine within the last 14 days, you should consult your doctor if:

- you experience long-term symptoms after vaccination (i.e. lasting for longer than the normal 3 days after vaccination);
- you experience symptoms that are getting worse;
- you experience having new symptoms after the disappearance of the well-known transient symptoms that many experience in the first days after vaccination.

It is normal to experience pain and redness at the injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle and joint pain, chills and fever after vaccination. When a vaccine activates the immune system, many will get influenza-like symptoms. This is completely normal and a sign that the body's immune system is reacting to the vaccine. These reactions occur with most vaccine types, and they usually pass within a couple of days.

A bruise at the vaccine injection site is to be expected. However, a low platelet count may affect the blood's ability to clot. If you experience signs of skin or mucosal bleeding in the form of easy bruising, small red spots on the skin, or bleeding that does not stop as normal, then it is important to react and consult a doctor.

The symptoms of blood clots vary depending on the location of the blood clot in the body. For example, it may be a severe headache, severe stomach ache, a leg that turns cold, sudden and unexpected pain in parts of the body, breathing difficulties or paralysis of one side of the body. However, blood clots can show in other ways, so it is important to react if you experience new or long-term symptoms after vaccination and to consult a doctor even if you do not have skin or mucosal bleeding.

What to do?

You should consult your doctor if you experience long-term or new symptoms within 14 days after vaccination.

Your doctor is required to report suspected side effects to the Danish Medicines Agency. You can also report suspected side effects yourself on the website of the Danish Medicines Agency www.lmst.dk.

For more information

You can read more about the vaccine on the Danish Medicines Agency's COVID-19 theme page, www.lmst.dk (the theme is in Danish only).

Yours sincerely,

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