MEMORANDUM

TO: ECU Faculty
FROM: Lanika Wright, Director of Student Health Services
       Grant Hayes, Provost
       Virginia D. Hardy, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
DATE: March 2, 2021
SUBJECT: STUDENTS AND POST-VACCINATION EFFECTS

This memorandum is to share some valuable information regarding the impact of the vaccine on our students. It is hard to believe we are one month into this spring semester. The positivity rates for testing have remained between 1-2%, lower than the current county rates. We attribute these low rates to the diligence of our students and the hard work of our staff and faculty. As we prepare to navigate the remainder of the semester, we wanted to provide some reminders and updated guidance pertaining to COVID and the COVID19 Vaccine to faculty and staff as we go through the remainder of the semester.

COVID Symptoms and Diagnoses

If a student has symptoms of COVID, please have them contact Student Health Services at 252-328-6841.

If a student tests positive for COVID, please note the following requests:

- Please have students complete the self-report on PiratePort.
- Students will be contacted by the ECU contact tracing team.
- Faculty/staff will be contacted by the contact tracing team if there is a concern (e.g. class/campus exposure).
- Students should present a clearance letter to return to class from their healthcare provider upon return to class.

If a student informs you that they have tested positive for COVID, please:

- Do not inform your class;
- Do not quarantine your class; and
- Do not require your entire class to be tested.
- You will be contacted by ECU contact tracing member or Student Health Services (SHS) staff if there is a concern of class exposure.
- Please reach out to SHS if you have any concerns or questions.
COVID Vaccinations in the Student Population

Lastly, we are excited about that many of our students are beginning to receive the COVID vaccine. It is a common occurrence for individuals to experience side effects after receiving the vaccine. While most side effects last only a few days, some effects may make it difficult to participate in daily activities. For example, some students may not be able to participate in class.

Some of the common side effects noted by the CDC include fever/chills/sweats, body aches, fatigue, headaches, swollen lymph nodes under the armpit, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Please note that these are common post vaccination symptoms; yet they are not necessarily indicative of COVID19.

Here are a few other points for you to know as more students get the vaccine:

- If your students experience some of the side effects after taking the vaccine, please remind the students to monitor their symptoms. If symptoms worsen within 24 hours or do not resolve in a few days, students are encouraged to seek medical attention.
- Students are not required to be seen by a healthcare provider for mild post COVID vaccination symptoms.
- If students are experiencing post COVID vaccine symptoms, please know that SHS will not provide them with a clearance note. Faculty should not expect such a note from SHS.

As more students get vaccinated, you may hear more about post vaccination symptoms from them. This may help you to help them. Please visit The Center for Disease Control COVID-19 site for more information regarding post COVID vaccine side effects. You may also visit Student Health Services for additional information.