You are being offered the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to prevent COVID-19, caused by SARS-CoV-2. This vaccine may help prevent you from getting COVID-19 and help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Although allergic reactions to the vaccine are rare and unlikely, please read the information below – especially if you suffer from any allergies. Take a minute to review this information, and see the chart below for more details on this topic.

Please ask your physician if you have any questions or concerns about this vaccine before receiving it.

**WHO SHOULD NOT GET THE PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE?**

You should not get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine if you:

- had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of this vaccine
- had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of this vaccine
- had a severe allergic reaction to another vaccine

**WHAT ARE THE INGREDIENTS IN THE PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE?**

The Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine includes the following ingredients: mRNA, lipids, potassium chloride, monobasic potassium phosphate, sodium chloride, dibasic sodium phosphate dihydrate, and sucrose.

**COULD I EXPERIENCE A SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION TO THE VACCINE?**

There is a remote chance that the vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction would usually occur within a few minutes to one hour after getting a dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include:

- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling of your face and throat
- A fast heartbeat
- A bad rash all over your body
- Dizziness and weakness

These may not be all the possible side effects of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Serious and unexpected side effects may occur. The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is still being studied in clinical trials.

**WHEN DID ALLERGIES BECOME A CONCERN WITH THE PFIZER VACCINE? AND, SHOULD I WAIT FOR ANOTHER VACCINE?**

When Britain began its full vaccine roll-out, there were two people who had severe reactions to the vaccine. Both required epi pen injections and are reported to be doing well. Out of an abundance of caution, the ACIP committee of the CDC recommends monitoring after vaccination for those who report having allergies.
IF I HAVE ALLERGIES CAN I STILL GET THE VACCINE?
Yes. We will monitor those with allergies this way:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allergy categories</th>
<th>Monitoring time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food, pet, insect venom, environmental or latex allergy requiring no treatment,</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ointment or Benadryl</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of allergy to oral medications (including the oral equivalent of an</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>injectable medication)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-serious allergy to vaccines or other injectables</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family history of anaphylaxis</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) to an injectable medicine</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT HELP WILL THERE BE FOR ME AT THE HOUSTON METHODIST VACCINE SITES IN THE UNLIKELY CASE I HAVE SEVERE ALLERGIES?
Yes. During the first week, we will have registered nurses and physicians at most sites while we better understand the right level of monitoring necessary for this vaccine. After this time, we anticipate that the vaccine administration staff will be on stand-by if monitoring help is needed. This may be adjusted as we learn from the first week.

SHOULD I TAKE TYLENOL OR ADVIL BEFORE THE VACCINE TO MINIMIZE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS?
No, it is not recommended at this time due to a lack of information on the impact of use on vaccine-induced antibody responses. Fever and pain reducing drugs, such as Tylenol or Advil may be taken for treatment of post-vaccination symptoms.