



## ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

# The Novel Coronavirus

## Workers and Employers Want to Know

**Q. Workers and employers have asked the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC):** *“Many waterfront workers and managers have chosen to get vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. The majority of us are fine, but a few have gotten infected subsequent to vaccination. Why is that, and what do vaccinated personnel need to know going forward?”*  
**[2 August 2021]**

**A:** While the three FDA authorized vaccines have a very high effective rate (an average of over 90% effective), that still leaves a comparatively small number of the vaccinated population with potentially ineffective results. It stands to reason then, that there will be a small number of vaccinated people who don't receive full immunity to the virus. Those are pretty good odds... but not perfect.

And while complete immunity may not be realized, fully vaccinated persons who subsequently become infected tend to have milder symptoms of the associated illness,

Like unvaccinated persons, fully vaccinated persons who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure<sup>1</sup> or until your test result is negative. You should **isolate** for 10 days if your test result is positive.

In terms of more fully explaining what vaccinated people need to know going forward, the latest intelligence published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) just last week is available at that agency's website.

We include a link to the relevant updated webpage here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

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<sup>1</sup> The CDC's Order of February 1, 2021 relating to "Transportation Hubs" continues to require the wearing of masks within indoor settings at those locations.

## Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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