

The effect of Covid19 vaccines on headache

Somayeh Nasergivehchi,

Board Certified Neurologist, Tehran University Medical Science



Headache is common in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infections. Global vaccination appears the mainstay for contrasting the ongoing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic outbreak. According to the available data, the vaccines approved by regulatory authorities have a positive efficacy and side-effect profile. Headache is the most common neurological symptom in over 50% of those vaccinated. Very few studies evaluated headache characteristics and their related determinants following COVID-19 vaccines.

This headache showed heterogeneous character. Headache was mostly bilateral without accompanying phenomena, less severe, and shorter than COVID-19 related headache, and associated with fever and other vaccine-related adverse events. Also suggested that COVID-19 vaccine-related headache was a different and simple secondary headache entity.

Studies found that this frequent adverse event was mostly experienced by females and was significantly associated with pre-existing primary headaches and headaches during COVID-19 course.