Will the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine cause a positive COVID-19 PCR test?
The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine can cause a positive COVID-19 antibody test which signifies previous infection, however it will not cause a positive COVID-19 PCR test unless there is the rare (14 patients out of 15,000 patients) where the vaccine was not completely effective in preventing a COVID-19 infection.

Can a patient with a previous COVID-19 infection be vaccinated with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine?
Yes

What is the role of the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) in vaccine approval?
The FDA established requirements for vaccine approval prior to phase three trials. They mandated safety data for greater than 50% of patients in the study. They mandated ethnic diversity. They mandated that all adult patients be studied including elderly.

How is the Pfizer vaccine distributed?
We will be getting the distribution of the Pfizer vaccine at San Carlos through the Indian Health Service (IHS). Preparations for storage in the ultracold temperatures have been completed at San Carlos.

When will vaccines become available to health care workers?
It is anticipated the first vaccine distribution for health care workers will occur on the week of December 14, 2020.

When will the COVID-19 vaccines be available to the general public?
The general population could start receiving COVID-19 vaccines by the second quarter of 2021.

Can you give one dose of the Pfizer vaccine and one dose of the Moderna vaccine?
No! Each vaccine requires an initial vaccine followed by a subsequent booster vaccine. The vaccines are not identical and are not interchangeable.

Do I need to wear a mask after I received the COVID-19 vaccine?
Yes. The CDC recommends that during the pandemic people wear a mask even after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Does immunity from getting COVID-19 last longer than the protection from the COVID-19 vaccine?
This is unknown. We do not know how long natural immunity from a COVID-19 infection will last and we do not know how long the vaccine immunity will last.