October 2021 Newsletter

iConquer MS ™
ACP Repository ™

MS Minority Research Engagement

PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

Accelerated Cure project for multiple sclerosis

October 2021 iConquerMS Spotlight

Encouraging news about COVID-19 vaccination in people with MS!

Many thanks to all that contributed data to the COVER-MS study. The initial results are in! In summary, having MS **does not appear to increase** the likelihood of experiencing COVID-19 vaccine reactions, and the frequencies of different types of reactions are similar to those reported in the vaccine clinical trials.

719 participants were included in this analysis, over half (57%) received the Pfizer vaccine, followed by Moderna (36%), Johnson & Johnson (4%) and Oxford/AstraZeneca (3%). The most common vaccine reactions were pain, fatigue and headache. These reactions were more likely in younger people, women, those with a prior COVID-19 infection and those who had a reaction after the first shot. Factors that **did not** correlate with vaccine reactions included being on disease modifying therapy, the type of MS an individual had, or how long they had MS.

A summary of the initial results, including a breakdown of demographics and MS disease modifying therapies used, can be found on the iConquerMS website. A more detailed analysis has been accepted by a medical journal, and we look forward to sharing that with you as soon as possible. For those interested, COVER-MS data analyst Dr. Farren Briggs describes what we've learned to date in an Ask an Expert webinar that was hosted by the National MS Society in September.

COVER-MS is open to anyone who has received a COVID-19 vaccine or plans to receive one. If you are an iConquerMS member that has received a COVID-19 vaccine, please login today and share your experience by clicking on "Participate in the COVID-19 Vaccination Study." Have you received an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine recently? Please let us know about it! We're also interested in learning about any new or changed MS symptoms you've experienced and if you've had a breakthrough case of COVID-19. We appreciate you keeping your information up to date! If you're not yet a member of iConquerMS, please join the network and start powering MS research today!