



January 7, 2021

Sidney Wolfe, M.D.
Public Citizen Health Research Group
1600 20th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Dr. Wolfe:

Thank you for your recent letter to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) regarding the government's post-COVID-19 vaccination guidance. As the NIH Associate Deputy Director, I am pleased to respond on behalf of NIH.

NIH appreciates your commitment to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, including the ongoing need to reiterate the importance of continuing to practice proven public health measures, such as wearing face coverings and social distancing, to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 even after vaccination.

While we must defer to FDA on the guidance provided in their patient fact sheet to be distributed following COVID-19 vaccination, NIH will certainly be mindful of the points in your letter in our COVID-19 vaccine-related communications.

Thank you for your continued efforts to help ensure accurate and appropriate public health communications, especially during this critical time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tara A. Schwetz".

Tara A. Schwetz, Ph.D.
Associate Deputy Director

cc:

Stephen M. Hahn, M.D., Commissioner, FDA
Peter Marks, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, FDA