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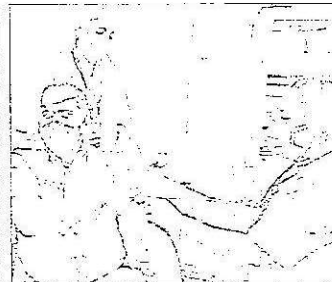
Covaxin co warns people with med conditions not to take jab

Out For Acutely Ill, Pregnant Women, Those With Bleeding Disorders Or Allergies, And Those On Blood Thinners Or Immunosuppressants

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New Delhi: People who are immuno-compromised or are on medicines that affect the immune system are advised not to take the anti-Covid vaccine Covaxin, a detailed fact-sheet released by its manufacturer Bharat Biotech said.

Earlier the government had said patients on immuno-suppressants or suffering from immune deficiency could take the vaccine though the response was expected to be less effective in such individuals. Usually cancer patients on chemotherapy, HIV-positive people and those on steroids are immune-suppressed. While the risk of infection is higher in such patients, doctors also say effi-



Cardiac surgeon Dr Devi Shetty (L) was vaccinated at his office on Monday; a policeman takes the shot at a hospital in Bengaluru

Only 158 of 239 BBMP vaccination sites with Co-WIN app on Monday

Glitches in the Co-WIN portal continue to disrupt the vaccination programme on day 3 with only 158 of the intended 239 sites in Bengaluru inoculating beneficiaries, reports Nithya Mandyam. BBMP officials said glitches on Sunday night hindered registration of Monday's beneficiaries, resulting in a delay in distributing vaccine vials.

About 16,000 were to be vaccinated at 239 sites on Monday

Sandur recipient dies, panel sees no vax link

B Kishan Singh & Sunitha Rao R

ICMR wing to keep tabs on Covaxin recipients, page 2

Vials can be stored for 6 months; 4 hours if opened, P 2

Efficiency of vaccines is often very low in such groups.

Bharat Biotech has advised people with bleeding disorders or who are on blood thinners to avoid the shot. Also, those who are acutely ill, have fever or have any history of allergy, besides pregnant or lactating mothers were also advised against taking the jab. The fact-sheet suggested that if any recipient developed Covid-19 symptoms, it should be recorded as an adverse event with RT-PCR test results as proof.

Doctors said the fact-sheet could be in the light of adverse events and if they could not

Ballari/Bengaluru: A 43-year-old group D employee of Sandur taluk hospital died of a heart attack on Monday two days after he was vaccinated for Covid-19. Nagaraj, who works as an attendant, turned up for work at the hospital as usual but soon complained of dizziness and collapsed. Sandur, in Ballari district, is about 314km from Bengaluru.

"Nagaraj suffered from chest pain around 9.30am. It was a massive heart attack. A postmortem will be done and we will have to wait for the report. It could be sheer coincidence," district health officer Dr BL Janardhan told TOI, adding that the attendant was suffering from diabetes and

he died around 12pm.

The autopsy report of the ward boy in Moradabad, who died a day after vaccination, said the 46-year-old suffered "cardiogenic shock". The chief medical officer said the death is not linked to the vaccine, while one of the doctors on the autopsy panel said only further lab tests on the viscera could confirm the cause. P 5

The preliminary AEFI (Adverse Event Following Immunisation) panel meeting

said the death is not because of the vaccine. However, postmortem is being done," said Pankaj Kumar Pandey, com-

State achieves 61% target; Mandya leads with 116%, P 2
Co-WIN app covers under weight of vax mission, P 5

but things fell apart while preparing the schedule," said Manjunath Prasad, BBMP commissioner. The delay had a ripple effect. Vaccine doses, which were to reach PHCs a day before the vaccination date, arrived by mid-afternoon at several centres. While officials in BBMP's war room worked till 5am, trying to fix things, they eventually could upload the schedule for only 158 sites.

The revised schedule added volunteers to the beneficiary list, alongside health and frontline workers. "Everyone who was volunteering at Covid-19 sites, including ward offices and

'Vaccinated person's infection to be mild'

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Experts have said that though a vaccinated person can catch Covid-19, the infection is likely to be mild.

The company said the advice was intended to be precautionary. "There is a remote chance that the Bharat Biotech Covid-19 vaccine (Covaxin) could cause a severe allergic reaction... may very rarely occur," the company said. It added that signs of severe allergic reaction could include difficulty in breathing, swelling of face and throat, fast heart beat, rashes all over the body, dizziness and weakness.

"Tell the vaccinator/offi-

cer about all your medical conditions, including: Are you on regular medication for any illness? If yes, for how long and for which condition," the factsheet said.

A health ministry advisory to states before the rollout of the vaccination programme on January 16 had listed history of allergy, pregnancy and lactation as contraindications. As provisional measures, it had suggested delaying vaccination by 4-8 weeks after recovery among acutely unwell or hospitalised patients along with those infected with Covid-19 and patients who had been treated with convalescent plasma. The clinical efficacy of Covaxin is yet to be established.