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## RLG CHEAT SHEET: HOW TO SPOT A FAKE COVID-19 VACCINE CARD

Now that we are aware of the Federal Government's intent to require certain employers to mandate vaccines for their employees, many employers may be concerned about the looming possibility of an uptick in employees presenting forged or otherwise fraudulent COVID-19 vaccination cards. Below are some strategies that you can employ in order to snuff out potentially fake COVID-19 vaccination cards. Please note that these strategies may not always guarantee the detection of a fake vaccination card. Additionally, until we receive further guidance from OSHA or other applicable authority, it remains unclear what level of examination is required to determine the validity of any vaccination card an employee presents to their employer.

- When reviewing a vaccination card, check that all information fields are filled out and that the date of the person's supposed inoculation aligns with when the specific vaccine received emergency use authorization (EUA) from the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). If the date of inoculation pre-dates the date the EUA was issued by the FDA, chances are the vaccination card is fake.
  - The FDA issued its first EUA for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine on December 11, 2020;
  - The FDA issued its first EUA for the Moderna vaccine on December 18, 2020.
  - The FDA issued its first EUA for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine on February 27, 2021.
- Ensure that the vaccination card has both the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's \(CDC\) seal and the Department of Health and Human Services' seal](#).
- Ensure that the name on the vaccination card matches the person's ID.
- Ensure that the card contains both the specific vaccination name (i.e., Pfizer, Moderna, etc.) and the Lot Number.
- A red flag should be raised if the card's required information (i.e., name, date of birth, inoculation date(s), date of second dose (if applicable)) is all typed in. Most vaccine providers around the country seem to fill in the patient's information by hand and/or use a stamp to show the inoculation date(s) on the card.
- For the two-dose vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer), since the two doses are distributed weeks apart, the shots are often administered by different people. Be cautious if the handwriting for both fields is the same.
- If you receive a non-standard vaccination card, you could call the vaccination provider facility that issued it to verify its authenticity. Additionally, if you receive proper authorization, you can cross-reference the vaccine card with the state's vaccine database to determine whether the individual actually got vaccination.

*Please note that these are fast-moving times, and the information provided is only accurate as of the day posted (September 10, 2021). The information provided does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information is prepared and provided for general informational purposes only.*

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