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Coronavirus

Participants in coronavirus vaccine trials report harsh side effects: Report

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An employee of SinoVac works in a lab at a factory producing its SARS CoV-2 Vaccine for COVID-19 named CoronaVac in Beijing on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020. SinoVac's CEO says they have injected 90 percent of its employees and family members, or about 3,000 people, and provided tens of thousands of rounds of CoronaVac to the municipal government of Beijing. It's a highly unusual move that raises ethical and safety questions, as companies and governments worldwide race to develop a vaccine that will stop the spread of the new coronavirus. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan) AP

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By [Kyle Lawson | klawson@siadvance.com](#)

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — Five participants in two different studies for a possible coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine — one by drug company Moderna, and the other by Pfizer — have reported harsh side effects after taking the drugs.

Three people in Moderna's study and two people in Pfizer's late-stage trials described a temporary illness that included a high fever, body aches, headaches and exhaustion, [CNBC reported](#).

One of the participants explained that flu-like symptoms after a second injection caused him to shake so violently that he cracked part of his tooth.

“It hurt to even just lay in my bedsheet,” he told CNBC.

Pfizer acknowledged to the outlet that “short-lived fever, mostly mild to moderate in severity, can be expected in a minority of recipients.”

A spokeswoman for Moderna said that safety committees have allowed the study to move forward at each review, adding the company can’t comment on specific participants, the outlet reported.

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