

Mission:

To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county, and community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

September 17, 2025

Social Security Administration
Office of Compassionate Allowances
6401 Security Blvd
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From: Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
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Subject: Request for Inclusion of COVID-19 Vaccine Injuries in the Social Security Administration's Compassionate Allowances Program.

Dear Commissioner and Compassionate Allowances Review Team,

This letter serves as a formal request to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for the addition of ten medically recognized and commonly documented COVID-19 vaccine-related injuries to the Compassionate Allowances List (CAL). The addition of these diagnoses will allow individuals diagnosed with adverse events caused by COVID-19 vaccines to access benefits and appropriate health care for their conditions and injuries.

The SSA's Compassionate Allowances Program (Program) was developed to quickly identify diseases and conditions clearly meeting SSA's standards for disability. The Program provides an avenue to address the medical needs of those injured by the COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to over 270 million¹ Americans. Despite public health communication and guidance suggesting COVID-19 vaccines were safe and effective, Americans have suffered from serious side effects and subsequent chronic illnesses. Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine is estimated to cause serious adverse events in 1:553 individuals, and Moderna's rate of serious adverse events is an estimated 1:1,380.² The pervasive use of vaccine mandates coerced many Americans

¹ <https://usafacts.org/visualizations/covid-vaccine-tracker-states/>

² Fraiman, J., Erviti, J., Jones, M., Greenland, S., Whelan, P., Kaplan, R. M., & Doshi, P. (2022). Serious adverse events of special interest following mRNA COVID-19 vaccination in randomized trials in adults. *Vaccine*, 40(40), 5798–5805. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.vaccine.2022.08.036>



into receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, often despite having some degree of immunity from prior COVID-19 infection. Millions of Americans were misled regarding their safety.

The Florida Department of Health, in conjunction with REACT-19, a science-based non-profit offering support for those suffering from long-term COVID-19 vaccine adverse events globally, identified serious adverse events after the COVID-19 vaccine that, in some patients, result in chronic and severe illnesses that would meet SSA's criteria for the CAL. It is believed that individuals diagnosed with the below conditions by a health care provider who attributes the condition to the COVID-19 vaccine, and who suffer, or are expected to suffer long-term disability due to their condition, should be eligible for an accelerated disability determination through the SSA.

1. Transverse Myelitis³
2. Myocarditis and Pericarditis (especially post-mRNA vaccination)⁴
3. Small Fiber Neuropathy (Autoimmune-mediated)⁵
4. Dysautonomia / Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS)⁶
5. Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)⁷
6. Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP)⁸
7. Tinnitus with Neurological Sequelae⁹
8. Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) / Vaccine-Induced Immune Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia (VITT)¹⁰
9. Thrombotic Antiphospholipid Syndrome (APS)¹¹
10. Mast Cell Activation Syndrome (MCAS) Post-Vaccination¹²

³ Liberio M, Sriwastava S. Acute transverse myelitis following SARS-CoV-2 vaccination: a case report and review of literature. *Journal of Neurology*. 2022;269(4):1121-1132. doi:10.1007/s00415-021-10785-2.

⁴ Patone M, Mei XW, Handunnetthi L, et al. Risks of myocarditis, pericarditis, and cardiac arrhythmias associated with COVID-19 vaccination or SARS-CoV-2 infection. *Nature Medicine*. 2022;28:410–422.

⁵ Giulia Carolina Primicerio, Bille, M. B., Lund, E. L., & Birk, S. (2025). Small fiber neuropathy following COVID-19 vaccination: A case series. *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, 474, 123536–123536. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jns.2025.123536>.

⁶ Kwan, A.C., Ebinger, J.E., Wei, J. et al. Apparent risks of postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome diagnoses after COVID-19 vaccination and SARS-Cov-2 Infection. *Nat Cardiovasc Res* 1, 1187–1194 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s44161-022-00177-8>.

⁷ Hanson, K. E., Goddard, K., Lewis, N., Fireman, B., Myers, T. R., Bakshi, N., Weintraub, E., Donahue, J. G., Nelson, J. C., Xu, S., Glanz, J. M., Williams, J. T. B., Alpern, J. D., & Klein, N. P. (2022). Incidence of Guillain-Barré Syndrome After COVID-19 Vaccination in the Vaccine Safety Datalink. *JAMA network open*, 5(4), e228879.

⁸ Irma Nora Duncan, Alexander Steve Renpenning, & Roberto Alejandro Cruz. (2022). A Case of Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy after Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccination. (P10-12.005). *Neurology*, 98(18_supplement).

⁹ Wang, W., Yellamsetty, A., Edmonds, R. M., Barcavage, S. R., & Bao, S. (2024). COVID-19 vaccination-related tinnitus is associated with pre-vaccination metabolic disorders. *Frontiers in pharmacology*, 15, 1374320.

¹⁰ Bilotta, C., Perrone, G., Adelfio, V., Spatola, G. F., Uzzo, M. L., Argo, A., & Zerbo, S. (2021). COVID-19 Vaccine-Related Thrombosis: A Systematic Review and Exploratory Analysis. *Frontiers in immunology*, 12, 729251.

¹¹ Seeley, E. A., Zimmer, M., & Berghea, R. (2022). Suspected COVID-19 Immunization-Induced Probable Catastrophic Antiphospholipid Syndrome. *Cureus*, 14(7), e27313.

¹² Weiss-Tessbach M, Haider T, Gowran A, et al. COVID-19 mRNA-1273 vaccination induced mast cell activation with strongly elevated Th2 cytokines in a systemic mastocytosis patient. *Inflammation Research*. 2025;74(1):71. doi:10.1007/s00011-025-02032-5.

Each of these conditions has been reported through federal monitoring systems such as the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), published in peer-reviewed literature, and acknowledged in clinical case studies from vaccine injury clinics nationwide.

Based on this information, it is requested that:

1. There be a review of the above conditions for inclusion in the CAL based upon available clinical and epidemiological evidence.
2. Designation of these conditions, when diagnosed by a clinician and attributed to COVID-19 vaccination, as eligible for expedited Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income.
3. Formation of a clinical review board to reassess emerging adverse event data for future updates to the CAL list.

Thank you for your time, service, and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Ladapo', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General