EMA Vaccine Risk Assessment tool - Guidance notes.

**Purpose of tool.**

This risk assessment tool has been developed to assist employers undertake a risk assessment on roles/ jobs/tasks to identify if the role/ task/ job needs to be undertaken by a vaccinated person.

**Method.**

The tool has 3 areas of assessment.

1. The work context,
2. The likelihood of exposure, and
3. The possible consequences of the exposure.

The Tool assesses a worker who is vaccinated, unvaccinated and a vulnerable worker. This to identify the relative risk profile of each group of workers. If you have no known vulnerable workers, then do not complete that section.

Given the process is to assess whether the role task/ job needs to be undertaken by a vaccinated worker a comparison must be undertaken. Risk is defined as, Risk = **Likelihood** X **Consequences**

Sections **A** and **B** are added and then multiplied by section **C**

**Work context.**

This assessment identifies general workplace criteria that is able to compound exposures and consequences.

Vulnerable workers are those with other illnesses, or are pregnant, on medications etc which may impact any Covid related infections.

**Likelihood.**

This looks at where exposures may occur that may lead to a transmission of the virus. These criteria are known as high risk factors for the transmission of the virus. Public facing is anyone who is not a fellow employee.

**Consequences.**

This section identifies the possible outcome of a positive exposure. It is not intended to be based on medical knowledge or testing but rather what the Ministry of Health has published.

This is as follows.

* We do know that unvaccinated people are far more prone to be more to severely affected by covid 19 than unvaccinated people; being hospitalised and or in HDU’s (high dependency units)
* We also know the vulnerable and unvaccinated people are even more prone to severe life-threatening conditions.
* On the other hand, totally vaccinated people may still become infected but will have only slight to moderate signs and symptoms, sometimes no symptoms at all. They can be hospitalised but unlikely for severe conditions or life threating conditions.