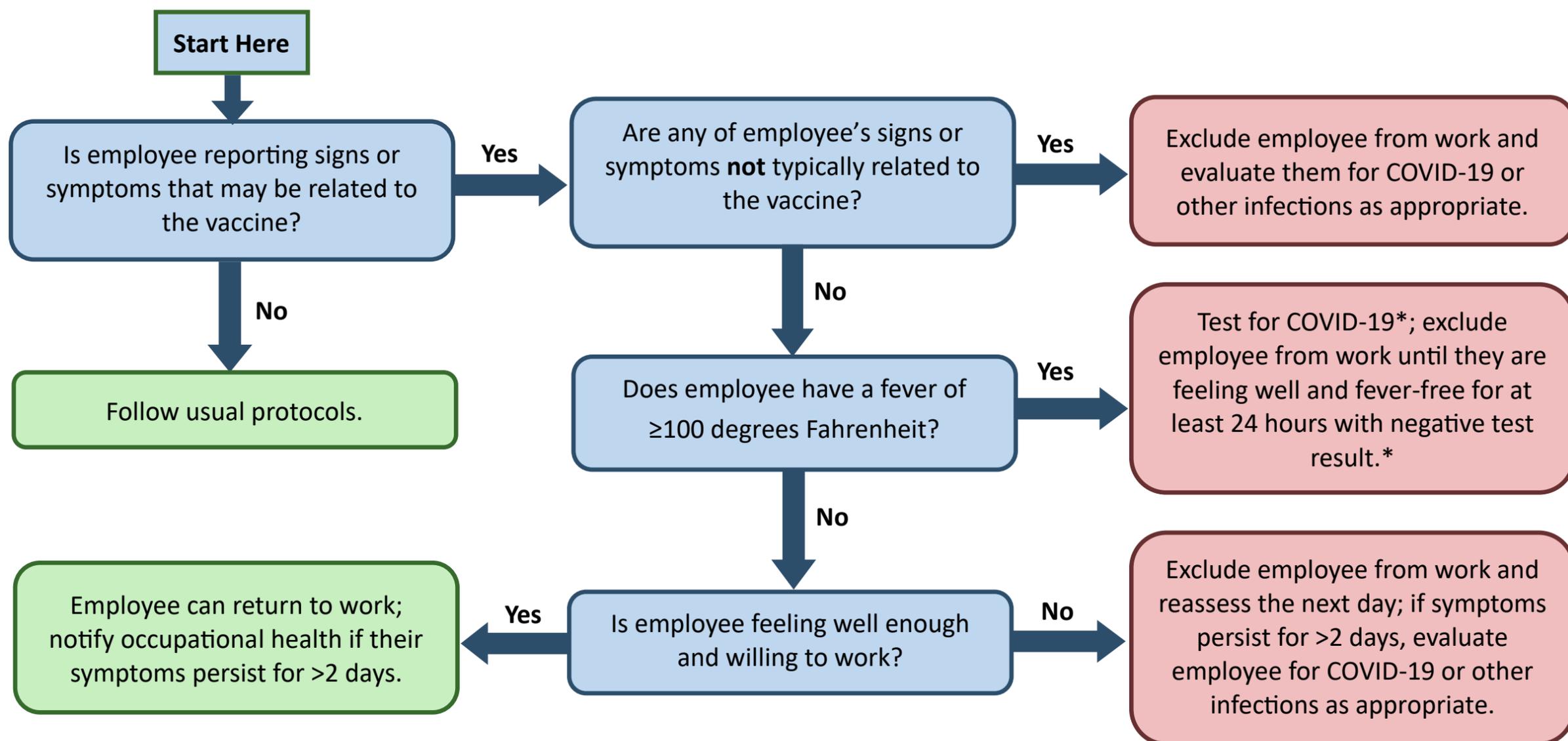**NYC Health**

Health Care Facility Decision Support for Health Care Workers Experiencing Potential Side Effects After Receiving a COVID-19 Vaccine

This tool (adapted from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Post Vaccine Considerations for Healthcare Personnel) is designed to aid in the evaluation of health care workers who are reporting potential side effects within three days of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine (the day of vaccination is considered the first day). These considerations are based on our current understanding of COVID-19 vaccine side effects and may evolve as we gain more information. Health care personnel exclusion requirements may vary; consult the New York State (NYS) Department of Health for guidance.

Side effects following COVID-19 vaccination can include **fever**, **fatigue**, **headache**, **chills, nausea**, **vomiting**, **muscle aches** and **joint pain**. Most side effects:
- Are mild to moderate in severity
- Occur within the first three days of vaccination, usually the day after vaccination
- Resolve within one to two days of onset
- Are more frequent and severe following the second dose and among younger people compared to older adults

Cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, congestion, sore throat and loss of taste or smell are **not** consistent with post-vaccination symptoms and may be symptoms of COVID-19 or another infection.

Start Here

Is employee reporting signs or symptoms that may be related to the vaccine?

Yes → Are any of employee's signs or symptoms **not** typically related to the vaccine?

Yes → Exclude employee from work and evaluate them for COVID-19 or other infections as appropriate.

No ↓ Follow usual protocols.

No ↓ Does employee have a fever of ≥100 degrees Fahrenheit?

Yes → Test for COVID-19*; exclude employee from work until they are feeling well and fever-free for at least 24 hours with negative test result.*

No ↓ Is employee feeling well enough and willing to work?

Yes → Employee can return to work; notify occupational health if their symptoms persist for >2 days.

No → Exclude employee from work and reassess the next day; if symptoms persist for >2 days, evaluate employee for COVID-19 or other infections as appropriate.

*A nucleic acid amplification (NAA) test is preferred but a negative antigen test is acceptable per NYS Department of Health.