

COVID-19 Vaccines: Vaccine Safety FAQs Dispelling Vaccine Myths

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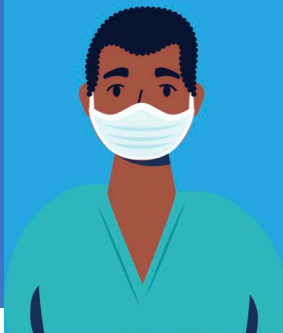
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Are The Vaccines Safe?

- The three authorized vaccines were developed in a faster than usual process, but all were extensively tested for both safety and efficacy and met FDA safety standards
- They will be carefully monitored to detect any problems or side effects
- Millions of people in the U.S. (and in other countries) have already received COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccine Safety Monitoring

- After a vaccine is authorized or approved for use, many vaccine safety monitoring systems watch for adverse events (possible side effects)
- This monitoring can pick up adverse events that may not have been seen in the clinical trials
- If an unexpected adverse event is seen, experts quickly study it further to assess whether it is a true safety concern, and then decide whether changes are needed in U.S. vaccine recommendations



COVID-19 Vaccine Safety

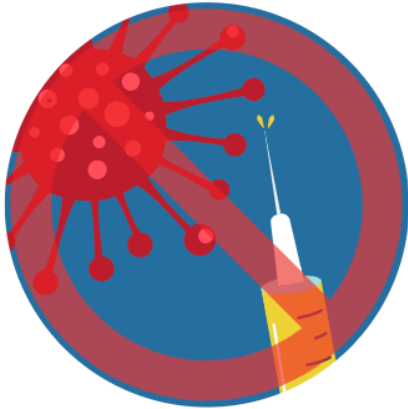
VACCINATE YOUR FAMILY

U.S. Systems Will Monitor the Safety and Effectiveness of COVID-19 Vaccines After FDA Approval.

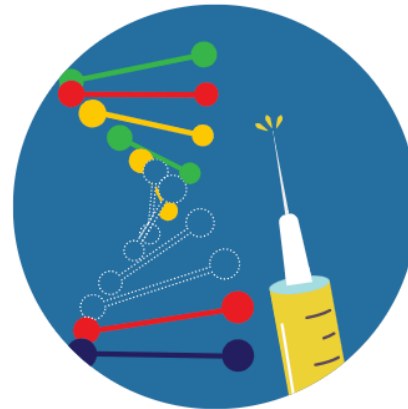
New or Expanded Vaccine Safety Monitoring Systems in the U.S.

- ✓ **V-SAFE**
CDC's new smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines.
- ✓ **NATIONAL HEALTHCARE SAFETY NETWORK (NHSN)**
An acute care and long term care facility monitoring system that reports to VAERS.
- ✓ **FDA'S BIOLOGICS EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY (BEST) SYSTEM AND FDA'S SENTINEL SYSTEM**
Systems contain administrative and claims-based data for vaccine surveillance and research.
- ✓ **CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS') HEALTH DATA**
FDA and CMS collaboration that monitors the CMS health records database.
- ✓ **GENESIS**
NIA/Brown University system to identify and track any adverse events after vaccination for nursing home residents.
- ✓ **HEALTH DATA/SAFETY MONITORING SYSTEMS FROM VETERAN AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE**

Dispelling Common Myths About the Vaccine



The truth: You will not get COVID-19 from the vaccine.



The truth: The vaccine will not change or damage your genetic information.



The truth: Even if you are vaccinated, you should still wear your mask, frequently wash your hands and maintain physical distance to help keep everyone safe.

[Source](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine: The Facts

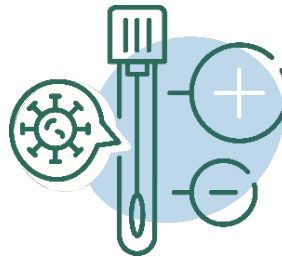
Key Facts About COVID-19 Vaccination



Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19



People who have already gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated



COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 viral tests*

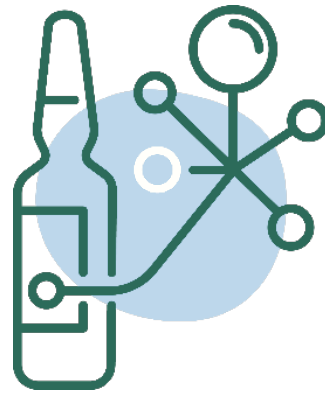


COVID-19 vaccines cannot give you COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccine: The Facts

COVID-19 Vaccination will Help Protect You from COVID-19

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine...



Will help create an immune response in your body against the virus



May help keep you from getting severely ill, even if you do get COVID-19

Frequently Asked Questions

- **If I had COVID-19, do I need the vaccine?**

- Yes. People who had COVID-19 are recommended to get the vaccine after they have recovered.

- **Can a person spread the virus after they are vaccinated against COVID-19?**

- The COVID-19 vaccines have been shown to be highly effective at preventing disease, but they might not prevent infection without symptoms. What this means is that if a vaccinated person can still be infected, even without symptoms, they could spread the virus.
- Studies will soon be completed to determine whether this is possible. However, given this uncertainty, vaccinated people should still use masks and practice social distancing measures.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What if I have a pre-existing condition, like asthma or diabetes can I get the vaccine?**
 - Adults of any age with **certain underlying medical conditions** are at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19
 - COVID-19 vaccines may be administered to people with underlying medical conditions provided they have not had [a severe or immediate allergic reaction](#) to any ingredients in the vaccine
- **How long does immunity last from the vaccine?**
 - We won't know how long immunity produced by vaccination lasts until we have more data on how well the vaccines work

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What If I have an autoimmune disorder, can I get the vaccine?**
 - People with autoimmune conditions may receive the authorized COVID-19 vaccines
 - However, they should be aware that no data are currently available on the safety of the COVID-19 vaccines for them.
 - Individuals from this group were eligible for enrollment in clinical trials
- **What if I have a weakened immune system?**
 - People with weakened immune systems due to other illnesses or medication [might be at increased risk for severe COVID-19](#). They may receive a COVID-19 vaccine but be aware of the limited safety data:
 - Information about COVID-19 vaccine safety for people with weakened immune systems is not yet available
 - People with weakened immune systems should also be aware of the potential for reduced immune responses to the vaccine, as well as the need to continue following all [current guidance](#) to protect themselves against COVID-19
 - Speak to your health care provider!

Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

Yes. People who want to get pregnant in the future may receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Based on current knowledge, experts believe that COVID-19 vaccines are unlikely to pose a risk to a person trying to become pregnant in the short or long term. Scientists study every vaccine carefully for side effects immediately and for years afterward. The COVID-19 vaccines are being studied carefully now and will continue to be studied for many years, similar to other vaccines.



The COVID-19 vaccine, like other vaccines, works by training our bodies to develop antibodies to fight against the virus that causes COVID-19, to prevent future illness. There is currently no evidence that antibodies formed from COVID-19 vaccination cause any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence suggesting that fertility problems are a side effect of ANY vaccine. People who are trying to become pregnant now or who plan to try in the future may receive the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to them.

Can a COVID-19 vaccine make me sick with COVID-19?

No. None of the authorized and recommended [COVID-19 vaccines or COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States](#) contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine **cannot** make you sick with COVID-19.

There are several different types of vaccines in development. All of them teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. Learn more about [how COVID-19 vaccines work](#).

It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity (protection against the virus that causes COVID-19) after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

