

COVID-19 Vaccines

Common Worries and Facts

I'M WORRIED...

The vaccine will give me COVID-19.

FACT

You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccines do not contain the virus that causes COVID-19.

I'M WORRIED...

The vaccines are unsafe and don't work.

FACT

The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.

Vaccines were tested on tens of thousands of participants in clinical trials. They met FDA's rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality needed to support emergency use authorization. They were all found to be very good at preventing people from getting sick with COVID-19.

I'M WORRIED...

my child will have side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine.

FACT

The health risks if children are infected with COVID-19 are much higher than the risk of vaccine side effects.

Like other vaccines, the most common side effects are a sore arm, tiredness, headache, and muscle pain. These symptoms are usually mild.

Side effects were generally mild to moderate in severity and occurred within two days after vaccination, and most went away within one to two days.

I'M WORRIED...

The COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility or impotence.

FACT

The vaccines are not known to interact with your reproductive organs.

Your worries around reproductive health and vaccines are understandable. Here is what we know: there is no scientific evidence that vaccines cause infertility or impotence. When the vaccine enters your body, it works with your immune system to create antibodies to fight the coronavirus. This process is not known to interfere with your reproductive organs.

I'M WORRIED...

I don't need the vaccine if I already had COVID-19.

✓ FACT

You should still get vaccinated if you already had COVID-19.

Data show it is uncommon to be re-infected with COVID-19 in the 90 days after you were infected. That means you might have some protection from COVID-19 (called natural immunity) for a little while. However, we don't know how long natural immunity lasts and the COVID-19 vaccines remains your best form of protection

I'M WORRIED...

I can't receive the COVID-19 vaccine when I get another vaccine like for flu.

✓ FACT

You can now get a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time that you get other vaccines.

You do not need to schedule other recommended vaccines separately from COVID-19 vaccination. A COVID-19 vaccine appointment is another opportunity to get caught up on all recommended vaccines.

I'M WORRIED...

COVID-19 vaccines are unsafe for people who are pregnant or breastfeeding.

✓ FACT

Medical experts in pregnancy and birth recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for people who are pregnant, lactating, or planning to get pregnant.

Data show the COVID-19 vaccines are safe during pregnancy. In fact, some studies show that a vaccinated parent can even pass antibodies against COVID-19 along to their baby through pregnancy and lactation. Pregnant people are at risk for severe illness from COVID-19, including death. The vaccines are the best protection.

I'M WORRIED...

The COVID-19 vaccines will change my DNA.

✓ FACT

COVID-19 vaccines do not change or affect your DNA.

All the vaccines available deliver instructions to our cells to start building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. The vaccine does not enter the part of the cell where our DNA is kept. Instead, the vaccines work with our body's natural defenses to build immunity.

I'M WORRIED...

I'm going to get sick after getting the COVID-19 vaccine.

✓ FACT

It's normal to have some side effects after getting the vaccine. This can be a sign that the vaccine is working

If you experience a medical emergency after getting the COVID-19 vaccine, call 9-1-1 immediately.

If you get sick after getting the vaccine, you should report the adverse event to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). An "adverse event" is any health problem or side effect that happens after a vaccination.