COVID-19:
Vaccine and Vaccination
## Immunity for the Community

How Vaccines Work

- Vaccines allow our bodies to produce an immune reaction that protects us from germs, including the virus that causes COVID-19.

- It is important to receive ALL recommended vaccinations.

Benefits of getting a COVID-19 vaccine

- Prevents you, your children and your loved ones from getting COVID-19 and from becoming seriously ill or dying from COVID-19

- Prevents spread of the virus to others in the community, which can save their lives and prevent the virus from mutating and forming dangerous new strains

- Protection from COVID-19 will allow us to safely return to school, activities, and normal life.
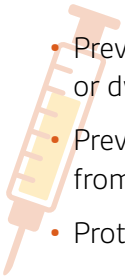
COVID-19 Vaccine FACTS

- The COVID-19 vaccine is **not** a live vaccine and is inactive.

- The vaccine **does not** give you COVID-19

- The vaccine **cannot** change your DNA

- There is **no** tracking device in the vaccine

- The vaccine **does not** cause infertility
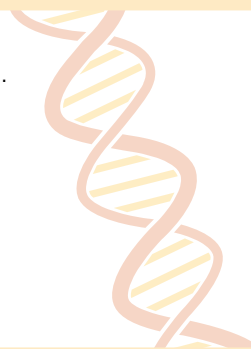
Possible side-effects

- The side effects are common to all vaccines: Fever, chills, fatigue, redness/swelling at the injection site, muscle aches. These are mild, and if they occur they go away quickly.

- Serious side effects (such as severe allergic reactions) are extremely rare.

- There is no evidence to suggest long-term negative effects from the vaccine.

COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the FDA

- **All** of the existing vaccines are very safe and effective
- **Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine**. Recommended for adults and children ages 12 years and older. Two injections given 21 days apart.
- **Moderna vaccine.** Recommended for people ages 18 years and older. Two injections given 28 days apart.
- **Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine.** Recommended for people ages 18 years and older. One injection.

COVID-19 vaccine in kids & teens

- All vaccines authorized for children have been shown to be highly effective and very safe for children in large clinical trials.
- More clinical trials with other COVID-19 vaccines are ongoing in young children.
- Children have suffered medically, socially and emotionally from the pandemic. It is important that all children eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine receive a vaccine when it becomes available.

FAQs

- **Should I get the COVID-19 vaccine even if I've already had COVID-19?**
  Yes, studies have shown that there is higher protection from the vaccine than from infection, so people who have had COVID-19 should also receive the vaccine.

- **Can I get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have an existing health condition?**
  Yes, people with existing health conditions are at higher risk from COVID-19 illness and should receive the vaccine for their health and safety.

- **Can pregnant or breastfeeding women get the COVID-19 vaccine?**
  Yes. Please talk to your health care provider about the risks and benefits.

- **Can I stop social distancing and wearing a mask once I receive the vaccine?**
  Vaccination is the best way for us to move forward from the pandemic. Vaccinated people should continue to take safety precautions advised by the CDC, but as more people get vaccinated, these recommendations will be loosened.

The information on this page is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. We encourage you to discuss questions and concerns with your healthcare provider.