COVID-19 Vaccines – What You Need to Know

VACCINES ARE SAFE

All of the vaccines have been tested on tens of thousands of people to make sure they are safe.

The COVID vaccines are safe.

- You can NOT get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- The vaccines keep you from getting very sick from COVID-19.
- The vaccines keep you from dying from COVID-19.

GETTING THE COVID-19 VACCINE

- You get your shots in the arm
- For the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines you get 2 shots, about 3-4 weeks apart
- For the J & J vaccine you get 1 shot
- You will need to wait for 15-30 minutes after the shot to make sure you don't have a bad allergic reaction (which rarely happens)
- You can get the Pfizer vaccine if you're 16 years old
- You can get the J&J or Moderna vaccine if you're 18 years old

After you get your COVID shot, you might have mild side effects for 1-2 days.

- pain, swelling, and redness where you got the shot
- feeling tired, headache
- muscle and joint aches or pain
- nausea
- fever, chills

WHEN DOES THE COVID VACCINE START WORKING?

- For the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, it takes 2 weeks after your 2nd shot for you to build full immunity
- For the J&J vaccine it takes 2 weeks after the shot to build full immunity

CAN I STILL GET COVID AFTER I HAVE BEEN VACCINATED?

- Yes, it might still be possible to get COVID after you get vaccinated, but getting the vaccine lowers your chances of getting COVID, getting very sick from COVID, or dying from COVID
- We don't know yet how long the COVID vaccine lasts, but it is possible that you might need to get the shots again later

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WHY SHOULD I GET VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19?

The vaccines are proven to work and they are safe.

- COVID is not safe and is making a lot of people very, very sick
- COVID is killing a lot of people
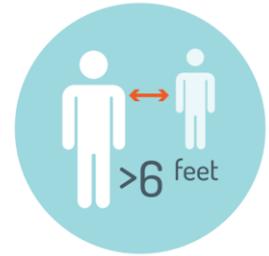- Getting vaccinated will help us all return to our normal lives faster

WILL I HAVE TO PAY FOR THE VACCINE?

- The COVID vaccines are free, but the company that gives you the shots might charge a small fee

CAN I GO BACK TO MY NORMAL ROUTINE AFTER I GET THE SHOTS?

- It will take some time to get enough people vaccinated so that we can safely go back to our normal lives, so for now you must continue to do the things that we know help keep us all safe.
- Everyone - even those who get their vaccine must continue to:
  - Wear a mask or face covering
  - Wash your hands often
  - Stop hanging out in groups
  - Stay 6 feet apart
  - Stay at home if you are sick
  - If you have COVID symptoms, get tested

HOW CAN I GET MY VACCINE?

- Go to https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/reporting/vaccinefinder/about.html
- Go to your state or local health department website
- Check with your local pharmacy

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

- Go to www.cdc.gov
- Call your state or local health department
- Talk to your doctor