COVID-19 can take lives—the COVID-19 vaccine will ***save lives***

Vaccination is our shot to help put COVID behind us. When more people are vaccinated, more people stay healthy, businesses and schools remain open and communities reconnect.

VACCS FACTS AT A GLANCE:

- There are no live viruses in the COVID-19 vaccine; so it cannot give you COVID.
- COVID-19 vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.
- Children are as likely as adults to get COVID., but getting kids age 5+ vaccinated can help protect them from serious symptoms.
- Getting vaccinated not only protects you, but those around you.

If you're deciding if the vaccine is right for you, talk to friends, healthcare providers and people you trust. The decision is personal; educate yourself. Don't miss your shot to learn the facts.

LEARN.
UNDERSTAND.
DECIDE.

The COVID-19 vaccine is our shot for a healthier tomorrow. We can end COVID. TOGETHER.

LEARN.

Prevention is protection—why vaccination is important

Learn more, know more—ending a pandemic is a group effort and requires using all tools available. The COVID-19 vaccine is a safe, effective way to protect our communities.

You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine

The COVID-19 vaccines do not use any form of the virus. The vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19 without having to give people the actual illness.

Breakthrough doesn't mean 'broken'

No vaccine is 100% effective, so breakthrough cases are nothing new. Many vaccinated Americans have become infected with COVID-19, especially during the Omicron surge. But if you're questioning if the vaccine works, consider the fact that data from state and local health agencies confirm that COVID-19 case, hospitalization and death rates are much lower for vaccinated individuals than they are for the unvaccinated.

Boosters maximize protection

The real protection of the booster is largely against disease; not against getting infected. So even if you test positive for COVID, you're a lot less likely to have severe symptoms that can lead to hospitalization or death.

UNDERSTAND.

About the COVID-19 vaccine

Are there live viruses in the COVID-19 vaccine?

No. There are not live viruses in the vaccine.

Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?

No. The vaccine does not contain the live virus; you cannot get COVID-19 from it.

How was the COVID-19 vaccine developed so quickly?

Technologies behind the vaccine were built on decades of research and experience. Before the novel coronavirus, which causes COVID-19, scientists had researched similar coronaviruses called SARS and MERS. This past research provided a head start to develop the COVID-19 vaccination.

Was the COVID-19 vaccine tested enough?

Testing for the vaccine was extensive—no safety steps were skipped. Before trials, there is usually a lot of administrative work—submissions, answering questions from regulatory agencies, etc.—that can take up to a year before actual testing can begin. Because COVID-19 is a public health emergency, scientists were allowed to skip this more clerical step and strictly do the research needed. There were no risky shortcuts. Another advantage that helped expedite the process was the collaboration of scientists throughout the world working around the clock. This teamwork meant the data, research and trials were shared which helped reach a vaccination sooner.

Does the vaccine change your DNA?

No. The vaccine teaches your cells how to recognize and fight COVID-19. It doesn't impact the part of the cell where the DNA is.

Can the vaccine track me?

No. There is no tracking technology in the vaccine.

DECIDE.

Long-term protection beats possible short-term side effects

Decide to protect yourself, your family and your community with the COVID-19 vaccine. After the shot, some people develop side effects. This is normal and means the body is building immunity against COVID-19. Symptoms could last a day or two and may include chills, fatigue, headache, fever, muscle or joint pain, diarrhea, vomiting or redness or swelling at the injection site.

Cough, shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose are not expected symptoms of the vaccine. Testing for COVID-19 is recommended even if these symptoms arise within 48 hours of the vaccine.