

# COVID-19 VACCINE FACTSHEET

We understand that some people are concerned about getting vaccinated once the COVID-19 vaccine is widely available. While these vaccines are being developed as quickly as possible, routine processes and procedures remain in place to ensure the safety of any vaccine that is authorized or approved for use.

## THE SAFETY OF COVID-19 VACCINES IS A TOP PRIORITY.

The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are as safe as possible. The CDC has also developed a new tool, v-safe, as an additional layer of safety monitoring to increase their ability to quickly detect any safety issues with COVID-19 vaccines.

## COVID-19 VACCINATION WILL HELP PROTECT YOU FROM GETTING COVID-19.

You need 2 doses of the currently available COVID-19 vaccine. A second shot 3 weeks after your first shot is needed to get the most protection the vaccine has to offer against this serious disease.

## CURRENTLY, THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS BEING OFFERED TO HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL AND RESIDENTS OF LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.

The current supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States is limited, so the CDC recommends that initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine be offered to these groups.

## RIGHT NOW, THERE IS A LIMITED SUPPLY OF COVID-19 VACCINE IN THE U.S., BUT IT WILL INCREASE IN THE WEEKS AND MONTHS TO COME .

Once vaccine is widely available, the plan is to have several thousand vaccination providers offering COVID-19 vaccines in doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, hospitals, and federally qualified health centers.

## AFTER COVID-19 VACCINATION, YOU MAY HAVE SOME SIDE EFFECTS. THIS IS A NORMAL SIGN THAT YOUR BODY IS BUILDING PROTECTION.

The side effects from COVID-19 vaccination may feel like flu and might even affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.

## COST IS NOT AN OBSTACLE TO GETTING VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19.

Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. However, vaccination providers may be able to charge administration fees for giving the shot.



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## PEOPLE WHO HAVE GOTTEN SICK WITH COVID-19 MAY STILL BENEFIT FROM GETTING VACCINATED.

Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, people may be advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have been sick with COVID-19 before.

## COVID-19 VACCINES WILL NOT CAUSE YOU TO TEST POSITIVE ON COVID-19 VIRAL TESTS.

If your body develops an immune response, which is the goal of vaccination, there is a possibility you may test positive on some antibody tests. Antibody tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus.

## COVID-19 VACCINES WILL NOT GIVE YOU COVID-19.

None of the COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States use the live virus that causes COVID-19. The goal for each of them is to 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 immunity.

## GETTING COVID-19 MAY OFFER SOME NATURAL PROTECTION, KNOWN AS IMMUNITY. BUT EXPERTS DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THIS PROTECTION LASTS, AND THE RISK OF SEVERE ILLNESS AND DEATH FROM COVID-19 FAR OUTWEIGHS ANY BENEFITS OF NATURAL IMMUNITY.

## CURRENTLY, TWO VACCINES ARE AUTHORIZED AND RECOMMENDED TO PREVENT COVID-19:

## PFIZER-BIONTECH & MODERNA COVID-19 VACCINES

## COVID-19 VACCINES ARE ONE OF MANY IMPORTANT TOOLS TO HELP US STOP THIS PANDEMIC.

It's important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others, stay at least 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

