

COVID-19 MYTHS



Let's set the record straight on COVID-19 myths.



MYTH: THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS NOT SAFE BECAUSE IT WAS RUSHED.

FACT: The urgent situation of the worldwide impact of the pandemic warranted an emergency response, but that does not mean that companies bypassed safety protocols or performed inadequate testing. The vaccine developers didn't skip any testing steps, but conducted some of the steps on an overlapping schedule to gather data faster. The COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna were created with a method that has been in development for years.



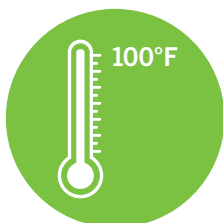
MYTH: I ALREADY HAD COVID-19, SO I DON'T NEED TO GET A VACCINE.

FACT: There is not enough information currently available to say *if or how long* after infection someone is protected from getting COVID-19 again. You should get the vaccine, even if you have had COVID-19 previously. The recommendation is to wait 90 days after having COVID-19 to get the vaccine—unless you are told otherwise by your healthcare provider, or wish to be immunized sooner.



MYTH: GETTING THE COVID-19 VACCINE GIVES YOU COVID-19.

FACT: The vaccine for COVID-19 cannot and will not give you COVID-19. The two authorized mRNA vaccines instruct your cells to reproduce a protein that is part of the coronavirus, which helps your body recognize and fight the virus, if it comes along. The COVID-19 vaccine does not contain the live virus, so you cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. The protein that helps your immune system recognize and fight the virus does not cause infection of any sort.



MYTH: THERE ARE SEVERE SIDE EFFECTS FROM COVID-19 VACCINES.

FACT: There are short-term mild or moderate vaccine reactions that resolve without complication. The most common side effects are headache, chills, fatigue or muscle pain or fever lasting for a day or two. These side effects are indicators that your immune system is responding to the vaccine and are common when receiving vaccines.

Note: *If you have allergies, especially severe ones that require you to carry an EpiPen—discuss the COVID-19 vaccine with your doctor who can assess your risk and provide more information.*



MYTH: I WON'T NEED TO WEAR A MASK AFTER I GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE.

FACT: It may take time for everyone who wants a COVID-19 vaccination to get one. While the vaccine may prevent you from getting sick, it is unknown at this time if you can still carry and transmit the virus to others. Until more is understood about how well the vaccine works, continuing with precautions, such as mask wearing and physical distancing, is important.



MYTH: THE COVID-19 VACCINE INCLUDES MICROCHIPS THAT CAN TRACK ME.

FACT: There is no vaccine “microchip” and the vaccine will not track people or gather personal information into a database.



MYTH: THE COVID-19 VACCINE CAN AFFECT WOMEN'S FERTILITY.

FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine will not affect fertility. The COVID-19 vaccine encourages the body to create copies of the spike protein found on the coronavirus's surface. This “teaches” the body's immune system to fight the virus that has that specific spike protein on it. Additionally, if true, it would mean people who had natural infection would produce antibodies to the same protein and would experience infertility, which is not true.