



ASK THE DOC



1. Are there any pre-existing conditions that prohibit people from receiving COVID-19 vaccine?

People with immune deficiency illnesses or people who are receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatment should consult with their physician before being vaccinated.

2. What are the ingredients in the vaccines?

These vaccines are made from the proteins that are harvested from the spikes that surround the walls of the virus.

3. Does getting the vaccine and then testing positive for COVID mean that you can still get infected?

Yes, there is a low possibility of getting COVID and hence testing positive even if you are vaccinated. However, you are at a much lower risk for developing a serious illness from it. The vaccine protects a person from experiencing life-threatening illness.

4. Based on my reading, the vaccines do provide immunity rather than simply lessen symptoms?

The COVID-19 vaccines do not prevent a person from getting an infection but the vaccines do prevent people from getting serious forms of the infection and it is highly unlikely that someone would die or even have to be hospitalized after receiving the vaccination.

5. Which vaccine has the best efficacy for African-Americans?

There is no difference in efficacy based on race.

6. How does the vaccine help someone who's already had COVID-19?

The vaccine prevents people who have already had COVID from having serious or life-threatening illness in the near future.

7. Even if I am protected after I am vaccinated, is there any risk that I could expose my wife if I come into contact with an infected person?

Even if you have been vaccinated you still carry virus in your nasal mucosa. The best way to protect your wife is for her to be vaccinated also.

8. Is there any information on the effects the vaccine has on pregnant and/or nursing women?

Since the virus can pass through the placenta and/or breast milk, Obstetricians recommend that a pregnant or lactating woman be vaccinated. Please consult with your obstetrician before being vaccinated.

9. How long does it take for the vaccine to be effective?

Maximum protection from COVID-19 virus occurs three weeks after the second vaccination.

10. Is the COVID-19 vaccine recommended for people with severe allergies?

People with severe allergies should consult with their allergist before deciding to be vaccinated.



ASK THE DOC



11. How protected am I after I have received the vaccinations?

The vaccine will protect you from getting sick as well as from becoming seriously ill even if you come into close contact with people who are not wearing masks or maintaining social distance.

12. In the early stages of the pandemic, there were reports of transmission by pets. Should we worry about pet sitting?

We do not have any good studies at this time that would enable us to answer this question.

13. Do we know how many vaccines exist worldwide and the efficacy of each of these vaccines?

We know that both Russia and China have developed vaccines but we do not have good studies about their efficacy. We know that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are highly effective.

There are multiple COVID vaccines that are either approved or are in trials both in the United States and worldwide. Currently, we have more information about the 3 vaccines that have received authorization in the United States including Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

14. Does the vaccine provide immunity rather than simply lessen symptoms?

The COVID-19 vaccines do not prevent a person from getting an infection but the vaccines do prevent people from getting serious forms of the infection and it is highly unlikely that someone would die or even have to be hospitalized after receiving the vaccination.

15. After receiving the COVID-19 vaccination can you still be a carrier of the virus that might infect other people?

People who have been vaccinated can still infect other people because the virus can remain in the nasal mucosa even after being vaccinated.

There are reports indicating that vaccinated people can be at lower risk of transmitting the virus to others. There is a possibility that people who have been vaccinated can still infect other people because the virus can remain in the nasal mucosa. It is, therefore, important to continue wearing masks even if you are vaccinated.

You can also visit the [CDC website for more FAQs about COVID vaccines.](#)