COVID19 VACCINE FAQs

Only we can care for us. The faster we all get vaccinated, the faster we can gather in community again.

Q: Can I get COVID-19 from a COVID-19 vaccine?
A: No, the COVID-19 vaccines do not have a live virus.

Q: Do the COVID-19 vaccines cause serious side effects?
A: Most people experience mild to moderate side effects for a few days. Others can have more serious side effects that may last up to three days. These can include headache, chills, pain at the injection site, and fatigue. Side effects mean your body is building protection.

Q: If I decide to get vaccinated, how many shots do I need?
A: It depends on which vaccine you receive.
  • The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a single shot.
  • The Pfizer vaccine is two shots given 21 days apart.
  • The Moderna vaccine is two shots given 28 days apart.

Q: Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe and effective?
A:
Yes, evidence shows that the vaccines are safe. The vaccines were carefully tested in clinical trials with increasing large numbers of people.

Yes, the vaccines are effective. In clinical trials, the vaccines ranged from 72% to 95% effective in preventing COVID-19 and 100% effective in preventing hospitalizations and death from COVID-19.

Q: Can the COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?
A: No, the vaccine does not change your DNA in any way because it cannot enter the cell nucleus.

Q: If I already had COVID-19, should I get the vaccine?
A: Yes, you can benefit from the vaccine even if you already had COVID-19. A second infection is possible and we don’t know if it would be worse.

Q: Do I need to wear a mask or practice physical distancing after getting vaccinated?
A: No, if you are with people outside your household or in a public place.
  • No, if you are with people from only one other household and no one is considered high-risk for disease.
  • No, if you are with other people who are fully vaccinated.

Q: After getting the vaccine, when am I considered fully vaccinated?
A: You are considered fully vaccinated:
  • 2 weeks after getting a single shot of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine
  • 2 weeks after getting a second shot of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine

Q: Where do I go to get vaccinated?
A: If you’re in Minnesota:
  • Minnesota Department of Health
    mn.gov/covid19/vaccine
  • City of Minneapolis Vaccine Resource Hub
    www2.minneapolismn.gov/coronavirus/vaccines
  • Free COVID-19 Vaccines in Minneapolis
    www.tinyurl.com/mplsvax