



The COVID-19 VACCINE - What else might you want to know!

Why should I get the Vaccine?

COVID-19 vaccination will help keep you from getting COVID-19, help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19 and help keep you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

Will the vaccines be effective against new variants of the coronavirus?

The presence of new strains makes it even more important for you to get vaccinated against COVID-19 when it is your turn. When more people are vaccinated, there are fewer chances for COVID-19 to spread regardless of the mutation. Scientists expected that the virus would mutate because viruses change all the time. From the data that are currently available, the vaccines appear to be effective against the new strains of SARS-CoV-2.

If I had COVID 19 do I still need to get the vaccine?

Yes, you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19; that's because experts do not yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. Even if you have already recovered from COVID-19, it is possible—although rare—that you could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 again. Studies have shown that vaccination provides a strong boost in protection in people who have recovered from COVID-19.

Is the vaccine safe?

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. Millions of people in the U.S. have received COVID-19 vaccines, and these vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ensures safety before vaccines are made available.

Can I test positive for COVID-19 because of the vaccine?

No, it is impossible for any of the vaccines currently authorized by the FDA to cause a positive result from a viral test (a test taken to see if you have a current infection). Additionally, none of the existing vaccines can give you COVID-19 because they do not use a live virus strain.

How does the vaccine work?

When you receive a COVID-19 vaccine, your body builds up the immunity it needs to fight the COVID-19 illness and lessen the mild-to-severe symptoms. It is important to remember that it takes the body a few weeks after vaccination to produce the necessary antibodies to protect you from COVID-19.

Do I have to wear a mask and social distance after I am fully vaccinated?

After you are fully vaccinated for COVID-19, you can resume many activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart except if you are indoors in public, are in an area of substantial or high transmission or where required by rules and regulations including local business and workplace guidance.

Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

Yes. If you are trying to become pregnant now or want to get pregnant in the future, you may get a COVID-19 vaccine when one is available to you.

Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?

No! COVID-19 vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way. Both mRNA and viral vector COVID-19 vaccines deliver instructions (genetic material) to our cells to start building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. However, the material never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept.

Can receiving a COVID-19 vaccine cause you to be magnetic?

No! Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine will not make you magnetic, including at the site of vaccination which is usually your arm. COVID-19 vaccines do not contain ingredients that can produce an electromagnetic field at the site of your injection. All COVID-19 vaccines are free from metals.

If I have more questions, who do I ask?

Please contact Rebecca Reed at rreed@saratogabridges.org, 518-587-0723 ext. 1202 or the CDC at 800-232-4636 or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html