

COVID-19 Vaccine Myths vs. Facts

Myth: COVID-19 vaccines were rushed and developed too quickly - FALSE

FACT: Safety has been a top priority throughout the COVID-19 vaccine development and approval process. Clinical trials were thorough and there have been no shortcuts in the vaccine development process. Years of research laid the groundwork for the development of COVID-19 vaccine. Recent technological advancements in RNA biology and chemistry as well as delivery systems, have allowed these COVID-19 vaccines using mRNA to be developed as safe and effective vaccines.

Myth: COVID-19 vaccines will alter my DNA or genetic makeup – FALSE

FACT: 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.

Myth: You can get COVID-19 from the COVID-19 vaccine - FALSE

FACT: None of the vaccines authorized for use in the U.S. contain a live virus.

Myth: If I have recovered from COVID-19, I don't need to get the COVID-19 vaccine – FALSE

FACT: Experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. CDC recommends individuals get vaccinated regardless of whether they've already had COVID-19 due to possible re-infection and severe health risks associated with COVID-19.

Myth: You will get a positive COVID-19 viral test if you receive the COVID-19 vaccine – FALSE

FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine will not cause you to test positive on a COVID-19 viral test however you may test positive on an antibody test. Antibody tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus. Experts are currently looking at how COVID-19 vaccination may affect antibody testing results, according to the CDC.

Myth: COVID-19 vaccines will implant tracking microchips in people – FALSE

FACT: No vaccine injections or nasal sprays including the vaccine for COVID-19 contain microchips, nanochips, RFID trackers, or devices that would track or control your body in any way.

Myth: COVID-19 vaccine will make me magnetic – FALSE

FACT: 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.

Myth: COVID-19 vaccine can cause infertility and harm my baby – FALSE

FACT: There is no current evidence that COVID-19 vaccine causes any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence that female or male fertility problems are a side effect of COVID-19 vaccine.

Myth: COVID-19 isn't very serious, so I don't need to get the vaccine – FALSE

FACT: The severity of COVID-19 symptoms varies widely, and getting vaccinated can help prevent infection with COVID-19. While some people with COVID-19 have only mild illness, others may get a severe illness that results in hospitalization or death. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you are not at increased risk of severe complications.