



# HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



## Facts about COVID-19 Vaccine

### **FACT: COVID-19 vaccines will not give you COVID-19**

None of the COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States use the live virus that causes COVID-19. The goal for any vaccine is to teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight COVID-19 virus in the body. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fatigue, headache, muscle pain and chills. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building immunity. It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination.

### **FACT: COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 viral tests**

Vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States won't cause you to test positive on PCR viral test. PCR viral tests are used to see if you have a **current infection**. If your body develops an immune response, which is the goal of vaccination, there is a possibility you may test positive on some antibody tests. Antibody tests indicate you had a **previous infection** and that you may have some level of protection against the virus.

### **FACT: People who have gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated**

Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, people may be advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have been sick with COVID-19 before. At this time, experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. The immunity someone gains from having an infection, called natural immunity, varies from person to person. Some early evidence suggests natural immunity may not last very long.

### **FACT: Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19**

While many people with COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a severe illness or they may even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. If you get sick, you also may spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you while you are sick. COVID-19 vaccination helps protect you by creating an antibody response without having to experience sickness.

### **FACT: COVID-19 Vaccine will not alter my DNA**

mRNA vaccines like COVID-19 vaccine do not change or interact with your DNA. mRNA vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response.

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**FACT: It is safe to get a COVID-19 vaccine if you plan on having a baby one day.**

COVID-19 vaccine is safe for those who would like to become pregnant. There is currently no evidence that antibodies formed from COVID-19 vaccine cause any problems with pregnancy. There is no evidence suggesting fertility problems are a side effect of the vaccine.

**FACT: There have been very few anaphylaxis reactions to COVID-19 vaccine**

An anaphylaxis is a severe life threatening allergic reaction that can rarely happen after a vaccine. According to the VAERS (Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System) and Wisconsin Department of Health Services there have been 47 cases of anaphylaxis after receiving the Pfizer vaccine (4.7 cases/million vaccines administered) and 19 cases of anaphylaxis after receiving the Moderna vaccine (2.5 cases/million vaccine administered). If you have had severe reactions to vaccines in the past you should consult with your medical Provider before getting any vaccine to determine what is best for you. The HCN Department of Health have not had any reported anaphylaxis reactions to COVID-19 vaccine.

**FACT: If you are fully vaccinated you are able to:**

Fully vaccinated persons (14 days after second dose for Moderna) who are exposed to an individual diagnosed with covid do NOT need to quarantine. It is recommended that fully vaccinated individuals who are exposed to someone with covid-19 still monitor themselves for symptoms of covid-19, and get tested if become symptomatic.

Fully vaccinated persons (14 days after second dose for Moderna) can gather indoors with other fully vaccinated individuals without the use of masks.

Fully vaccinated persons (14 days after second dose for Moderna) can gather outdoors with non- vaccinated individuals of one household without the use of masks, unless any of the unvaccinated persons are at high risk for severe illness

Fully vaccinated persons (14 days after second dose for Moderna) should continue to practice social distancing, masking, and frequent handwashing while in public to protect the safety and health of the general public.

**How do I know which sources of COVID-19 vaccine information are accurate?**

It can be difficult to know which sources of information you can trust. Learn more at <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/evalwebs.htm>.