Myths about
COVID-19 Vaccines

Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine here

We understand that in the uncertainty of a pandemic, confusion and misinformation can circulate. Read through this fact sheet of some common COVID-19 vaccine misunderstandings.

COVID-19 vaccines cause variants.
FALSE COVID-19 vaccines do not create or cause variants of the virus that causes COVID-19.

New variants of a virus happen because the virus that causes COVID-19 constantly changes through a natural ongoing process of mutation (change). Even before the COVID-19 vaccines, there were several variants of the virus. Looking ahead, variants are expected to continue to emerge as the virus continues to change.

The mRNA vaccine is not considered a vaccine.
FALSE mRNAvaccines, such as Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, work differently than other types of vaccines, but they still trigger an immune response inside your body. This type of vaccine is new, but research and development on it has been under way for decades.

COVID-19 vaccines will alter my DNA.
FALSE 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.

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Myths about
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COVID-19 vaccines can make me sick with COVID-19.

FALSE None of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as a fever. These symptoms are similar to those experienced with other routine vaccines and are normal signs that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines contain microchips.

FALSE COVID-19 vaccines do not contain microchips. Vaccines are developed to fight against disease and are not administered to track your movement. Vaccines work by stimulating your immune system to produce antibodies, exactly like it would if you were exposed to the disease.

Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine can cause you to be magnetic.

FALSE 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.

It isn't safe for me to get the COVID-19 vaccine if I am currently pregnant or plan to get pregnant in the future.

FALSE Evidence about the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy, although limited, has been growing. It suggests that the benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweigh any known or potential risks of vaccination during pregnancy. Additionally, vaccination during pregnancy builds antibodies that might protect the baby.

Information from CDC website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/planning-for-pregnancy.html