

# Frequently Asked Questions About the COVID-19 Vaccine

## Q: Do COVID-19 vaccines work?

A: Yes, COVID-19 vaccines are highly protective against severe disease, hospitalizations, and deaths. People who are vaccinated are much less likely to become infected. If a vaccinated person does become infected, they will shed the virus for a shorter period of time.

## Q: Can COVID-19 vaccines change your DNA?

A: No, mRNA vaccines can't change your DNA; in fact, the mRNA can't enter the nucleus. mRNA in vaccines are instructions to our cells to make a piece of a spike protein. The spike proteins then migrate outside of the cells where the immune system recognizes them.

## Q: Did COVID-19 vaccines go through usual testing for vaccines?

A: Yes, COVID-19 vaccines went through full randomized controlled clinical trials and the typical FDA and CDC review processes. The vaccines were tested among tens of thousands of persons before they were authorized and were determined to be safe. Also, mRNA vaccine technology has been studied for many years. Billions of dollars in government funding made it possible for these vaccines to be made and tested.

## Q: Do COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility?

A. No, there is no evidence that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause problems with fertility. There was no difference in the number of pregnancies during the clinical trial between vaccinated and placebo groups. There has been no decrease in the birth rate and no increase in miscarriages after the use of COVID-19 vaccines.

## Q: Can other vaccines be given with the COVID-19 vaccine?

A. Yes, at first it was recommended to space out other vaccines by 2 weeks, but that is no longer recommended. The COVID-19 vaccine can be given on the same day as other needed vaccinations – including the flu vaccine.

## Q: Can you get COVID-19 from the COVID-19 vaccine?

A: No, none of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the United States contain live virus so it is not possible to get COVID-19 from the vaccine.

## Q: Is it better to have “natural immunity”?

A. No, although COVID-19 may be asymptomatic or mild, some people will be hospitalized, die, or have long-term complications from the virus. We do not know how long natural immunity lasts or the protection it provides against getting COVID-19 again – people who had COVID-19 in the past should still get the vaccine. Immunity after vaccination appears to be more protective.