

Facts About the COVID-19 Vaccine

COVID-19 vaccines are the safest, most effective way to protect yourself and others from serious illness and hospitalization due to COVID. The CDC states that everyone ages 6 months and older should get vaccinated against COVID-19. **You may have heard some confusing things about the vaccine. Here are the facts.**



The COVID-19 Vaccine is Safe

Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history. The benefits of COVID-19 vaccination outweigh the known and potential risks. The CDC continues to closely monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

The Vaccine Protects You from COVID-19

The vaccine works with your body's natural defenses to fight the virus if you are exposed. This is called *immunity*.

The Vaccine Will NOT Give You COVID-19

None of the vaccines now in use contain the live virus that causes COVID-19.



The Vaccine Does NOT Alter Your DNA

The vaccine never enters the nucleus, or center, of the human cell, where our DNA is kept.

The COVID-19 Vaccine Does NOT Affect a Woman's Fertility

Currently no evidence shows that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems (problems trying to get pregnant) in women or men.



To make a vaccine appointment, visit www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvaccine, www.myturn.ca.gov or call the Community Bridges COVID-19 Vaccination Helpline at (831) 219-8607

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The Vaccine Does NOT Include Any Sort of Tracking Device

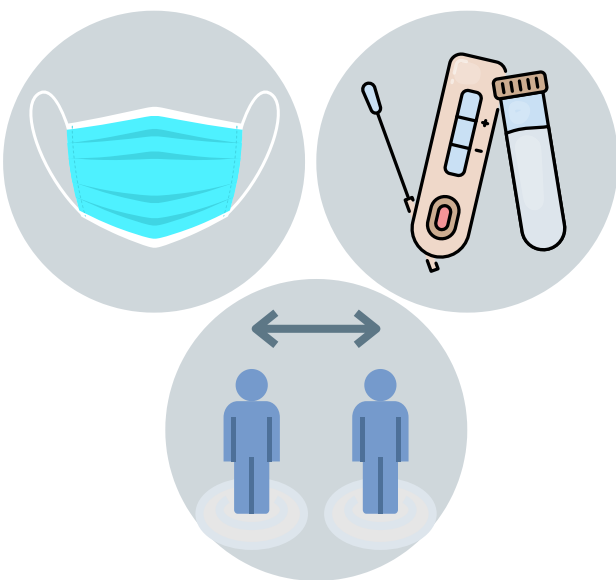
Some of the syringes, or needles, used to give the vaccine have a unique label. This helps medical workers confirm the vaccine origin. No label or other tracking device is injected into the person getting the vaccine.

You Will NOT Be Asked About Your Immigration Status

The vaccine is available regardless of immigration status and you do not need insurance. Your privacy will be protected.

The Vaccine Has Some Side Effects

For most people these are minor, including muscle pain, chills and headache. Although rare, some people can have a severe allergic reaction to vaccine ingredients. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have a history of severe allergic reactions before getting the vaccine.



Protect Yourself and Others

The vaccine helps keep you from getting seriously sick from COVID-19, but people who are up to date with their vaccinations may still get COVID. Safety precautions you can take to protect yourself and others include:

- Continue wearing a mask indoors
- Testing regularly to prevent spread to others
- Avoid poorly ventilated spaces and crowds