

LET'S REACH COMMUNITY IMMUNITY!

# PROTECT

YOURSELF. YOUR FAMILY. YOUR ELDERS.



GET VACCINATED



## Myths about the COVID Vaccine

**MYTH: Getting the vaccine will give you COVID.**

**FACT:** This is absolutely false. To become ill with COVID, there must be contact with the coronavirus. None of the vaccines available contain coronaviruses so they don't have what is needed to cause infection. Building up immunity takes time and so it is possible to contract the virus either before you get the vaccine or while your body is still building protection from the vaccine. That's why wearing a mask is so important.

**MYTH: You don't need a vaccine if you've had COVID.**

**FACT:** We don't know how long immunity lasts once you recover from the virus, but there is a possibility of catching the virus a second time, so the vaccine is still important. If you've had COVID, you may receive the vaccine after your symptoms have gone away and you have finished your isolation period. If you received certain medicines when you had COVID, you may need to wait to be vaccinated. Talk to your provider about what's right for you.

**MYTH: The vaccine will change my DNA.**

**FACT:** Your DNA is the blueprint for your body and is very difficult to change. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines contain a different type of genetic material called messenger RNA, or mRNA. Your cells break down the mRNA after a short period of time. And mRNA does not affect or interact with your DNA in any way.

**MYTH: I can't get the vaccine if I want to have a baby.**

**FACT:** There is no evidence the vaccine does anything to a baby during pregnancy, nor that it does anything to the mother's body to prevent pregnancy in the future. For men, there is no evidence to suggest it affects the sperm or male reproductive organs either, meaning it won't prevent someone from becoming a father. Your provider can help answer any specific questions.

For more information on vaccine safety, community supports, and continued protection against COVID, visit <https://www.ihs.gov/vaccine>

Together, we can reach community immunity.

Facts based on the CDC page Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines.