COVID-19 Vaccine Information

What you should know before getting VACCINATED

Getting ready for a COVID-19 Vaccine

Safety + Efficacy
An independent advisory board has reviewed and recommended the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines for emergency use. The vaccines have been given to millions of people and have passed safety tests at each step. The Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are considered highly effective in preventing severe illness.

Availability
The vaccine is being made available in phases, starting with individuals most vulnerable and those at highest risk of exposure. While supply is very limited, we are working toward making vaccine available to any individual who wants it.

Doses + Timing + Protection
Two of the COVID-19 vaccines approved for use require two doses to establish a complete immune response. Although partial immunity is developed after the first dose, it is important you receive a second dose for full protection. You should return to the same provider for the second dose. The interval between doses is 21 days for Pfizer and 28 days for Moderna. Johnson & Johnson requires one dose.

Side Effects
Initial data from the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson trials shows patients experienced side effects similar to other adult vaccines and a small percentage experienced symptoms that interfered with their daily activity. Common side effects include fatigue, headache, muscle pain, chills and injection site pain. No specific safety concerns were identified in subgroup analyses by age, race, ethnicity, or underlying medical conditions.

Cost + Insurance
No person can be billed for the COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccination providers may charge an administration fee to insurance, Medicaid or Medicare, if applicable in your situation. Uninsured Missourians will be able to receive the vaccination regardless of their health insurance status.

STRONGER COMMUNITIES, STRONGER TOGETHER.
Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services
GET THE FACTS

Protect yourself and your family from the misinformation that is spreading online.

Will it alter my DNA?
No. The Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines were created through mRNA technology. They do not introduce DNA into your body. mRNA provides a set of instructions to your cells to create an immune response specific to COVID-19. Medical doctors independent of the vaccine development teams have verified that using mRNA will not alter the DNA of our body’s cells.

Johnson & Johnson’s COVID-19 vaccine uses viral vector technology, which also cannot alter your DNA.

Was it rushed?
No corners have been cut in developing a COVID-19 vaccine. Scientists have had a jump on developing the COVID-19 vaccine, using their experience from previous coronavirus vaccine efforts. Another way to preserve safety and save time is by working on efforts simultaneously, rather than one after another. For example, COVID-19 vaccines were in phase 3 clinical trials at the same time they were being manufactured. When their safety and efficacy was proven, manufactured vaccines could be used. If they didn’t pass the approval process, the unproven vaccines wouldn’t have been made available.

Does it cause female sterilization?
No, medical professionals have called rumors about COVID-19 vaccines causing sterilization “an utterly bizarre claim.” None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain Syncytin-1. Furthermore, there are no protein-based vaccines among the candidates in phase 3 clinical trials for COVID-19. Scientifically, there is no sequence homology between SARS-CoV-2 and Syncytin-1, so any immune response initiated by the vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 would not affect Syncytin-1.

Get the Facts at MOStopsCovid.com

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services