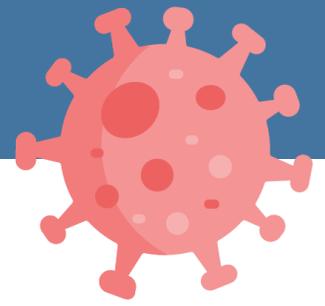




FACT SHEET



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SAFETY OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE

This fact sheet was updated on May 12, 2021. It is based on information that was available at that time. This information might change in the future.

COVID-19 is an illness caused by a new coronavirus. You can get very sick from **COVID-19**. It can make it hard for you to breathe.

There are **vaccines** to help your body fight COVID-19. A vaccine is a shot in the arm. This fact sheet will help you understand whether the vaccine for COVID-19 is safe.

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe for most people. Thousands of people tested the vaccine. People who get the vaccine are much less likely to get sick.



Very few people had severe **side-effects**. Severe side-effects are shortness of breath, a rash, swelling of the tongue, shock, hives, wheezing, or other things.



Different kinds of people tried the COVID-19 vaccine. Some had lung disease, heart disease, and diabetes. Some were Black, Hispanic, or Asian. Some were older. All of them did well.

The vaccine cannot give you COVID-19. The vaccine does not have the coronavirus in it.

Talk to your doctor about the vaccine if you have questions.

Some people should talk to their doctor before getting the vaccine:

- You should talk to your doctor if you have a weak immune system.
- You should talk to your doctor if you are allergic to other vaccines.
- You may want to talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.



Some people should not get the vaccine now:

- People who currently have COVID-19 should wait to get the vaccine until they have recovered. Visit [this website](#) to learn when you are recovered.
- People under 12 years old cannot get the vaccine at this time.

