

# COVID-19 VACCINE

# MYTHS & FACTS

The COVID-19 vaccines contain microchips.

**X FALSE**

COVID-19 vaccines do not contain microchips. Vaccines are developed to fight against disease and are not administered to track your movement. Vaccines work by stimulating your immune system to produce antibodies, exactly like it would if you were exposed to the disease. After getting vaccinated, you develop immunity to that disease, without having to get the disease first.

The COVID-19 vaccine can alter my DNA.

**X FALSE**

COVID-19 vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way. Both mRNA and viral vector COVID-19 vaccines deliver instructions (genetic material) to our cells to start building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. However, the material never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept.

It is safe for me to get the vaccine if I want to have a baby in the future.

**✓ TRUE**

COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for everyone 12 years of age or older, including people who are trying to get pregnant now or might become pregnant in the future, as well as their partners. Currently no evidence shows that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems (problems trying to get pregnant) in women or men.

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine will cause me to test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test.

**X FALSE**

None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines cause you to test positive on viral tests, which are used to see if you have a current infection. If your body develops an immune response to vaccination, which is the goal, you may test positive on some antibody tests. Antibody tests indicate you had a previous infection and that you may have some level of protection against the virus.

Being near someone who received the COVID-19 vaccine can affect your menstrual cycle.

**X FALSE**

Your menstrual cycle cannot be affected by being near someone who received a COVID-19 vaccine. Many things can affect menstrual cycles, including stress, changes in your schedule, problems with sleep, and changes in diet or exercise. Infections may also affect menstrual cycles.

Extreme heat or cold—such as an ice/hot bath, summer sun exposure, or being outside in winter—cannot prevent COVID-19.

**✓ TRUE**

Exposure to the sun or to temperatures higher than 77 F (25 C) does not prevent the COVID-19 virus or cure COVID-19. You can get the COVID-19 virus in sunny, hot, and humid climates, as well as in very cold or snowy weather. Taking a hot or cold bath also cannot prevent contracting the COVID-19 virus. Your internal body temperature remains the same, regardless of the temperature of your bath or shower.

If I've already had COVID-19, I don't need a vaccine.

**X FALSE**

Evidence continues to indicate that getting a COVID-19 vaccine is the best protection against getting COVID-19, whether you have already had COVID-19 or not.

Now that we have a vaccine for COVID-19, we can make vaccines for the common cold, HIV and other diseases.



**FALSE**

The thousands of viruses that cause various diseases are very different. Many change (mutate) year by year, making it difficult to develop one vaccine that works for a long period of time. Developing vaccines for some disease-causing viruses is tough. For example, the virus that causes HIV can hide and make itself undetectable by the human immune system, which makes creating a vaccine for it extremely difficult. The common cold can be caused by any one of hundreds of different viruses, so a vaccine for just one of them would not be very effective.

Vaccine boosters stimulate the immune system.



**TRUE**

Researchers found that antibody levels rose more than eight-fold when the Pfizer booster was given following two Pfizer shots. The most potent booster in the study was a full dose of the Moderna vaccine, which raised antibody levels eleven-fold in the Pfizer group. When Moderna is used in the US booster program, it is given at a half-dose.

Pneumonia and flu vaccines will protect you from COVID-19.



**FALSE**

Vaccines against pneumonia, such as the pneumococcal vaccine, don't provide protection against the COVID-19 virus. The flu shot also won't protect you against the COVID-19 virus. However, annual flu vaccinations are recommended for everyone age 6 months and older.

5G mobile networks do not impact the spread of COVID-19.



**TRUE**

Avoiding exposure to or use of 5G networks doesn't prevent infection with the COVID-19 virus. Viruses can't travel on radio waves and mobile networks. The COVID-19 virus is spreading in many countries that lack 5G mobile networks.

Ivermectin can treat and prevent COVID-19.



**FALSE**

This drug is often used in the U.S. to treat or prevent parasites in animals. In humans, specific doses of ivermectin tablets can be used to treat parasitic worms and a topical version can be applied to the skin to treat head lice and skin conditions. However, ivermectin isn't a drug for treating viruses, and the FDA hasn't approved use of this drug to treat or prevent COVID-19. Taking large doses of this drug can cause serious harm. Don't use medications intended for animals on yourself.

A "breakthrough infection" is an expected occurrence for a small percentage of those receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.



**TRUE**

No vaccine for any disease is 100% effective. Breakthrough infections of COVID-19 cases happen in people who are fully vaccinated. The term "breakthrough" implies that the vaccines failed, but this is not the case. The intention of the vaccine is to reduce hospitalizations and deaths, a goal that the COVID-19 vaccines continue to meet.



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