



## COVID-19

# Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines

Updated Aug. 18, 2021

[Print](#)

## How do I know which COVID-19 vaccine information sources are accurate?

Accurate vaccine information is critical and can help stop common myths and rumors.

It can be difficult to know which sources of information you can trust. Before considering vaccine information on the Internet, check that the information comes from a credible source and is updated on a regular basis. Learn more about [finding credible vaccine information](#).

## Bust Common Myths and Learn the Facts

### Do COVID-19 vaccines contain microchips?

**No.** 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.

Learn more about the [ingredients](#) in the COVID-19 vaccinations authorized for use in the United States.

Learn more about how [mRNA](#) COVID-19 vaccines work.



### Can receiving a COVID-19 vaccine cause you to be magnetic?

**No.** Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine will not make you magnetic, including at the site of vaccination which is usually your arm. COVID-19 vaccines do not contain ingredients that can produce an electromagnetic field at the site of your injection. All COVID-19 vaccines are free from metals.

Learn more about the [ingredients](#) in the COVID-19 vaccinations authorized for use in the United States.



## Do any of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the United States shed or release any of their components?

**No.** Vaccine shedding is the term used to describe the release or discharge of any of the vaccine components in or outside of the body. Vaccine shedding can only occur when a vaccine contains a weakened version of the virus. None of the vaccines authorized for use in the U.S. contain a live virus. mRNA and viral vector vaccines are the two types of currently authorized COVID-19 vaccines available.

Learn more about [mRNA](#) and [viral vector](#) COVID-19 vaccines.



## Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

**Yes.** If you are trying to become pregnant now or want to get pregnant in the future, you may get a COVID-19 vaccine when one is available to you.

There is currently no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination causes any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence that female or male fertility problems are a side effect of any vaccine, including COVID-19 vaccines.



## Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?

**No.** 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.

Learn more about [mRNA](#) and [viral vector](#) COVID-19 vaccines.

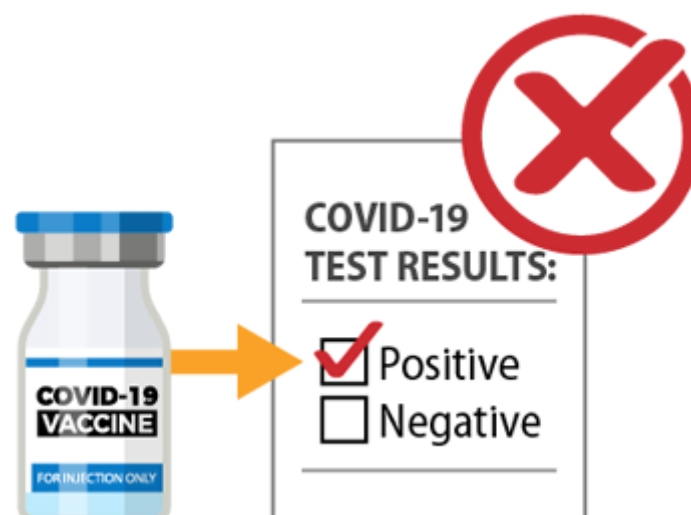


## Will getting a COVID-19 vaccine cause me to test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test?

**No.** 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.

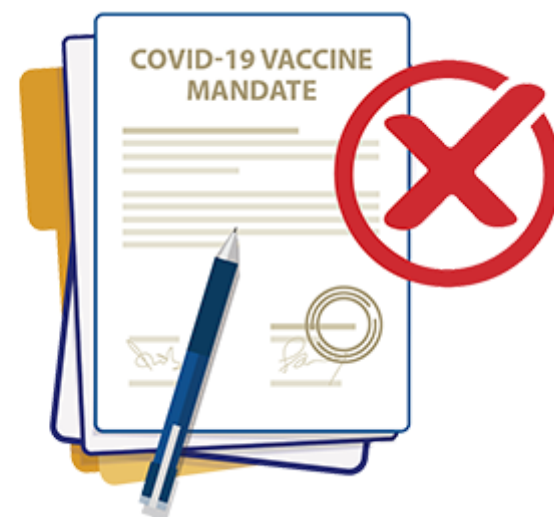
Learn more about [the possibility of COVID-19 illness after vaccination](#)



# Other Myths and Facts

## Can CDC mandate that I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

**No.** The federal government does not mandate (require) vaccination for people. Additionally, CDC does not maintain or monitor a person's vaccination records. Whether a state or local government or [employer](#), for example, can require or mandate COVID-19 vaccination is a matter of [state or other applicable law](#) [↗](#).



## Can a COVID-19 vaccine make me sick with COVID-19?

**No.** None of the authorized [COVID-19 vaccines in the United States](#) contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine **cannot** make you sick with COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are signs that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. Learn more about [how COVID-19 vaccines work](#).



## Can being near someone who received a COVID-19 vaccine affect my menstrual cycle?

**No.** 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.



## Related Pages

- [Frequently Asked Questions about Vaccination](#)
- [Key Things to Know about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)