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COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Long-term Care

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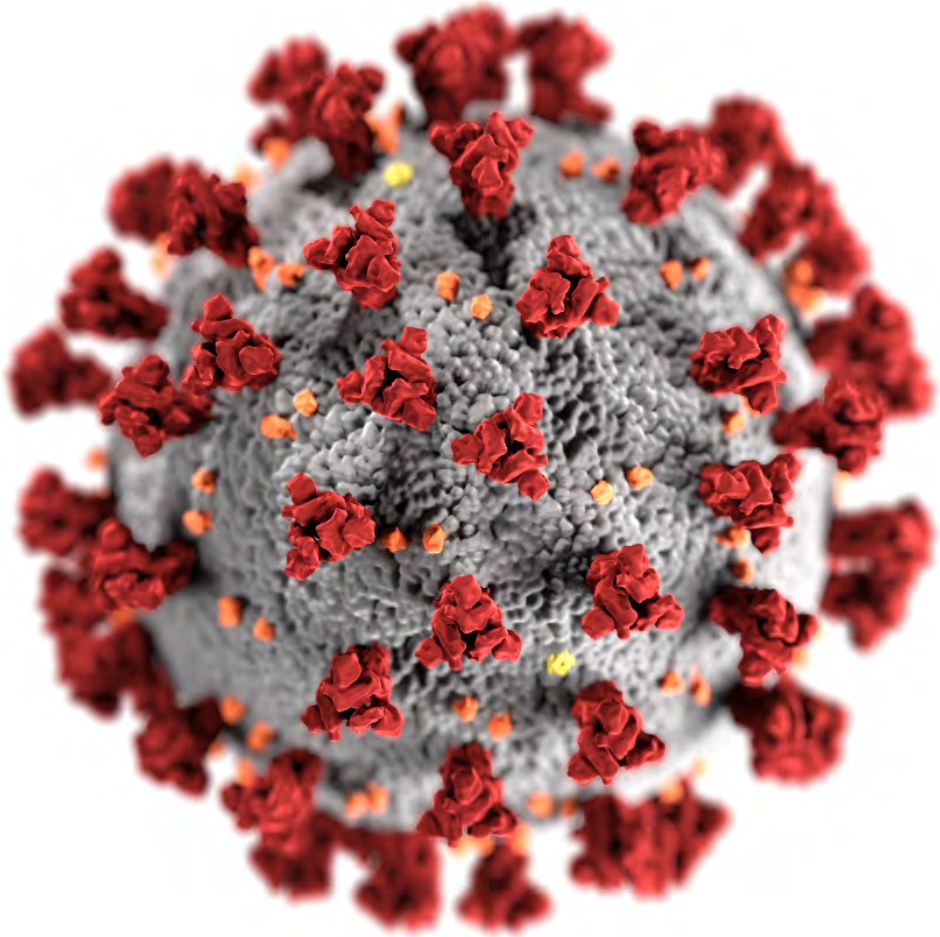
Dec. 2020



cdc.gov/coronavirus

Speaker Disclosures

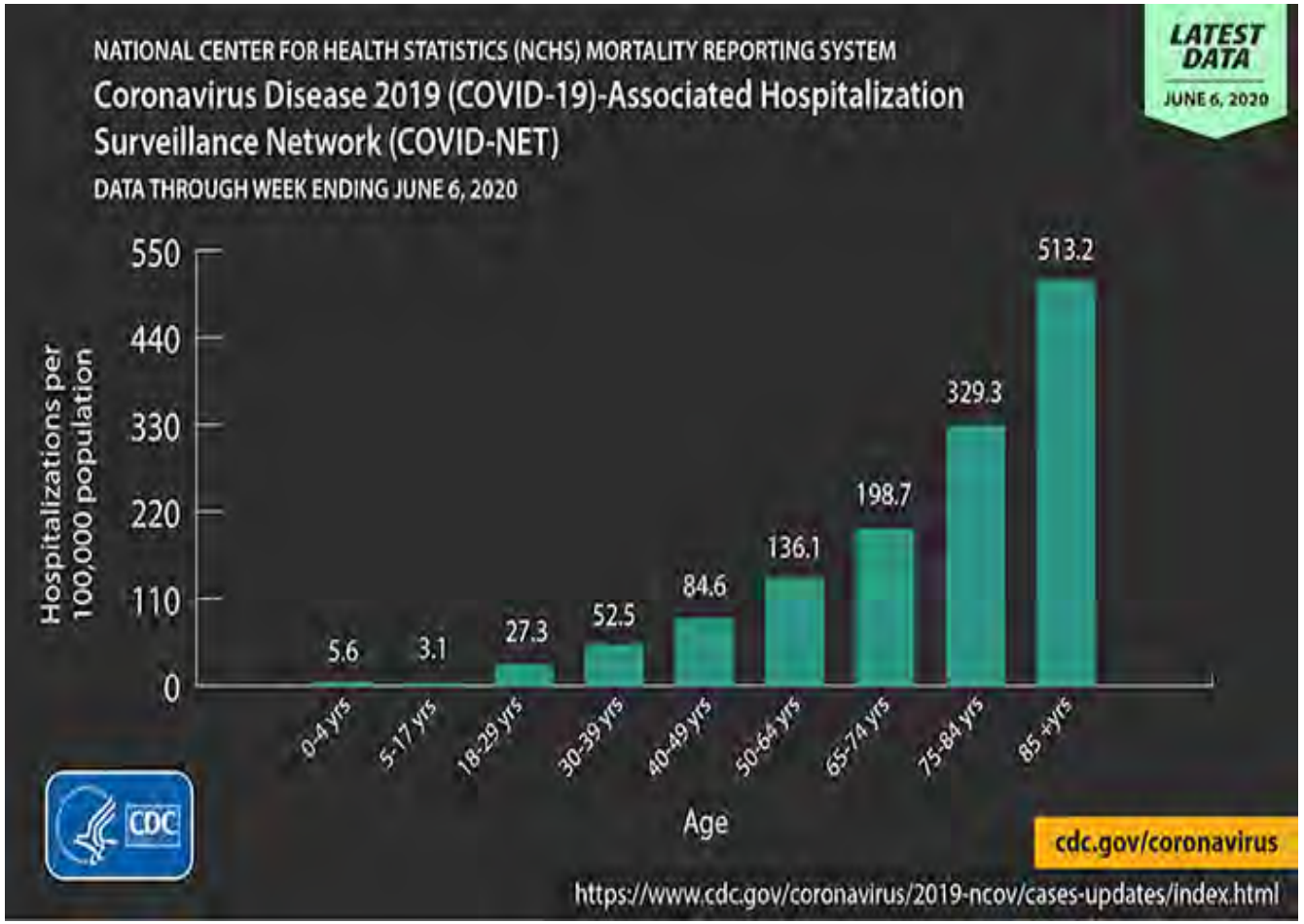
- No disclosures to report
- The content of this presentation reflects my opinion and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the CDC

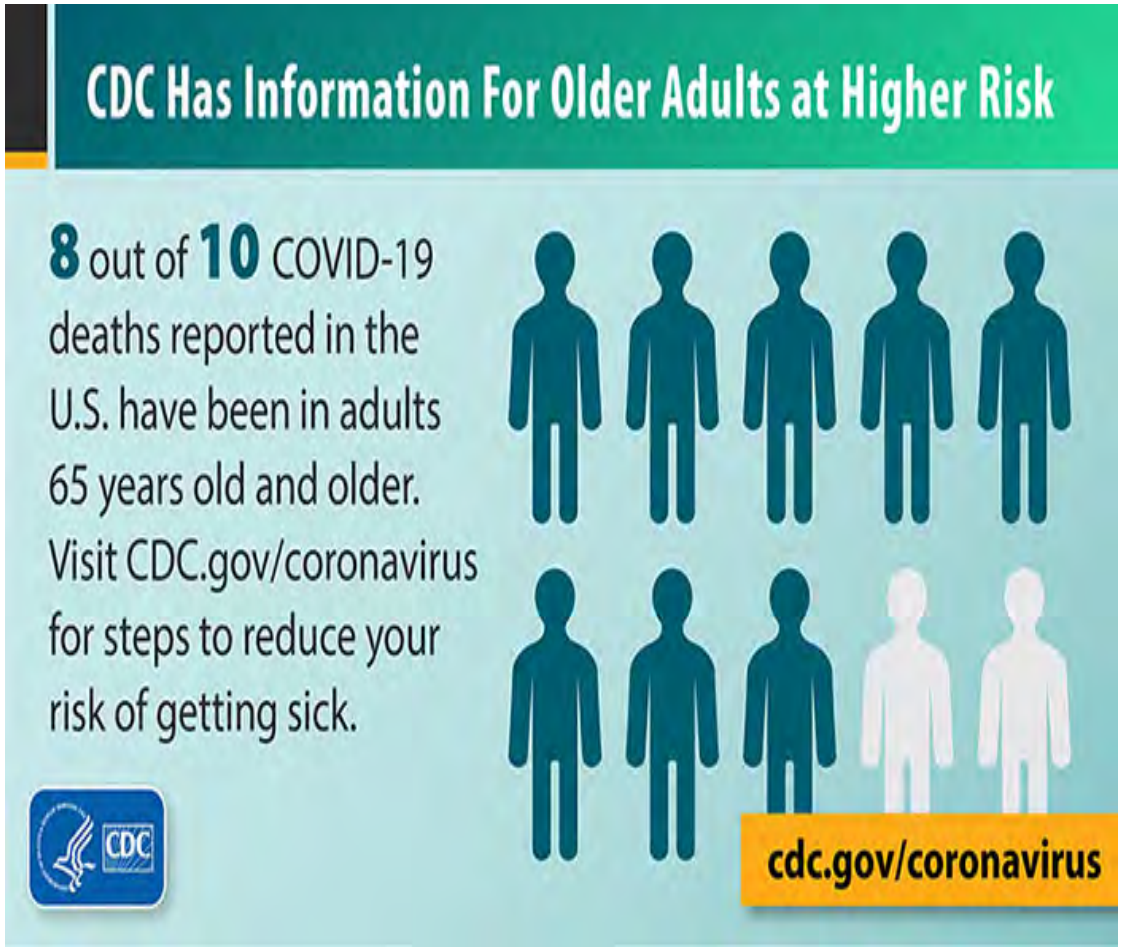
Thanks to the essential caregiving teams supporting residents and families!

What we know about COVID-19

- Infection with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, can result in a range of illnesses, from mild symptoms to severe illness and death.
- We don’t know how SARS-CoV-2 will affect each person.
- Some people are more likely than others to become severely ill, such as older adults (65+ years) or people with certain medical conditions.

COVID-19 and Older Adults



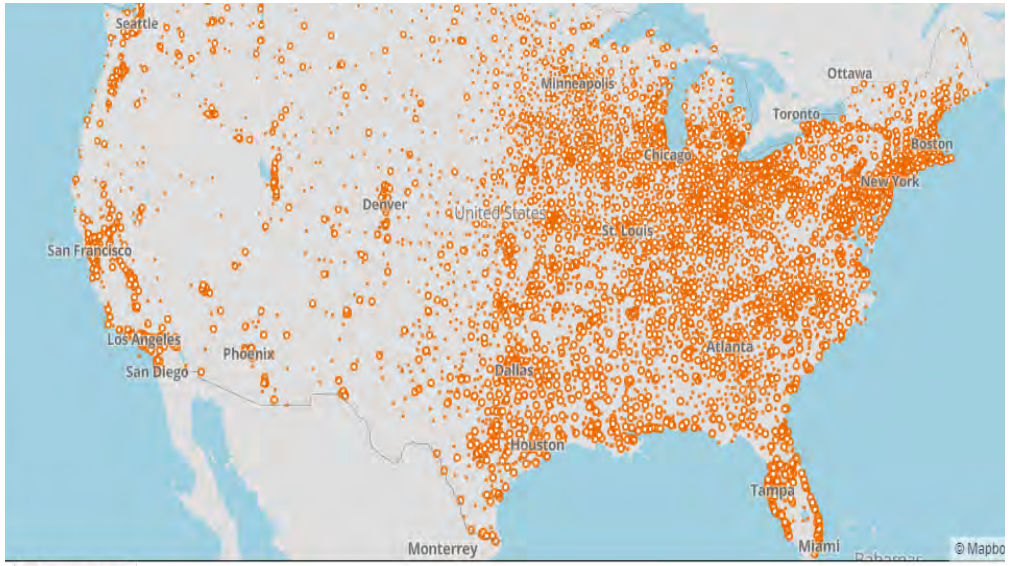


https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/older-adults.html

COVID-19 Impact in U.S. Nursing Homes: May-Nov 2020

Resident and Staff Cases and Deaths

TOTAL RESIDENT COVID-19 CONFIRMED CASES	TOTAL RESIDENT COVID-19 DEATHS
377,510	76,542
TOTAL STAFF COVID-19 CONFIRMED CASES	**TOTAL STAFF COVID-19 DEATHS**
322,690	1,162



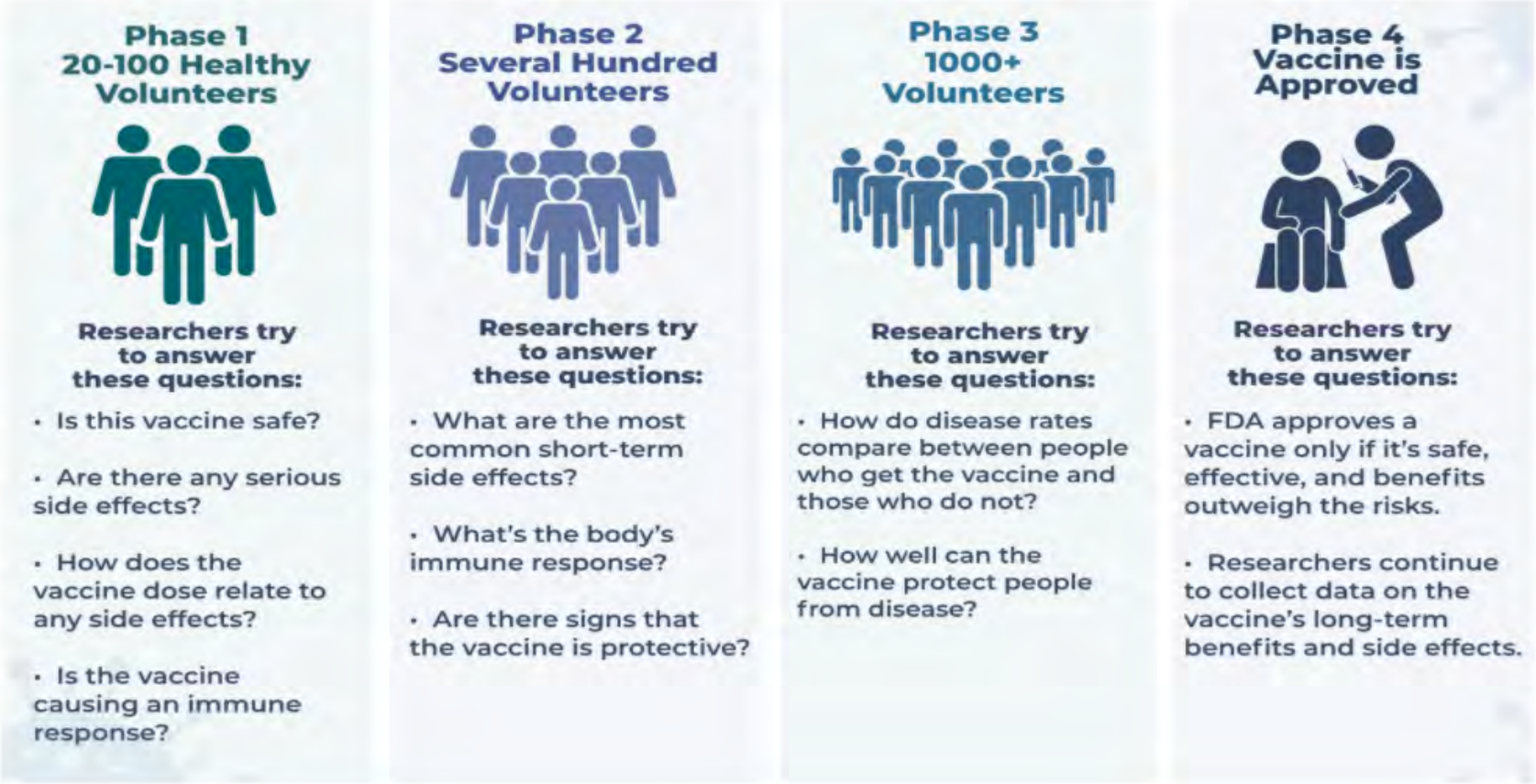
https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data/bkwz-xpvg

Healthcare personnel: A priority for COVID-19 vaccination

- On the front lines and at risk of exposure
- Can potentially transmit the virus that causes COVID-19 to residents, their families, and their communities
- Can positively influence vaccination decisions of peers, residents, friends, and family

- ***Healthcare personnel*** = paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials – not exclusive to medical personnel, includes administration, support staff, etc.

Four phases of clinical trials to evaluate vaccine safety and efficacy



- FDA's Emergency Use Authorization is a process that helps facilitate the availability and use of medicines and vaccines
- ***COVID-19 vaccines are being held to the same safety standards as all vaccines.***

Source: https://covid19community.nih.gov/resources/understanding-clinical-trials

COVID-19 vaccines and FDA Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs)

- Current vaccines requesting Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) from the FDA:
  - **Pfizer/BioNTech (BNT162b2):** 2 doses given at least 21 days apart
    - 95% effective (manufacturer data)
    - *EUA issued on Dec 13, 2020 for use in persons ≥16 years*
  - **Moderna (mRNA-1273)**: 2 doses given at least 28 days apart
    - 94.5% effective (manufacturer data)
- Both vaccines were tested in tens of thousands of adults from diverse backgrounds, including older adults and communities of color.
- Clinical trial data show that both vaccines are safe and effective at preventing COVID-19.

Sources: https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-conclude-phase-3-study-covid-19-vaccine
https://investors.modernatx.com/news-releases/news-release-details/modernas-covid-19-vaccine-candidate-meets-its-primary-efficacy

What are messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines?

- Carry genetic material that teaches our cells how to make a harmless piece of “spike protein,” which is found on the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
  - Genetic material from the vaccine is destroyed by our cells once copies of the spike protein are made and it is no longer needed.
- Cells display this piece of spike protein on their surface, and an immune response is triggered inside our bodies. This produces antibodies to protect us from getting infected if the SARS-CoV-2 virus enters our bodies.
- Do not affect our DNA; mRNA does not enter the cell nucleus.
- Cannot give someone COVID-19.
- Use technology that is new but not unknown. mRNA vaccines have been studied for influenza, Zika, rabies, and cytomegalovirus (CMV).

Sources: College of Physicians of Philadelphia. What is an mRNA vaccine? https://historyofvaccines.blog/2020/07/29/what-is-an-mrna-vaccine/
JAMA. COVID-19 and mRNA Vaccines—First Large Test for a New Approach. https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2770485

About these COVID-19 mRNA vaccines

- These mRNA vaccines are expected to produce side effects after vaccination, especially after the 2nd dose.
- Side effects may include:
  - fever
  - headache
  - muscle aches

- No significant safety concerns were identified in the clinical trials.
- At least 8 weeks of safety data were gathered in the trials. It is unusual for side effects to appear more than 8 weeks after vaccination.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/covid-19/clinical-considerations.html

The COVID-19 mRNA vaccines will not give you COVID-19

- **None** of the COVID-19 vaccines in use or under development use the live virus that causes COVID-19.
- People can experience normal side effects, such as fever, after vaccination. These side effects are signs that the body is building immunity.
- It takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity after vaccination.
  - A person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.
- We don’t know yet how long protection from vaccines might last

How was the vaccine development timeline accelerated while ensuring safety?

- Researchers used existing networks to conduct COVID-19 vaccine trials.
- Manufacturing began while clinical trials are still underway. Normally, manufacturing doesn't begin until after completion of the trials.
- mRNA vaccines are faster to produce than traditional vaccines.
- FDA and CDC are prioritizing review and authorization of COVID-19 vaccines.

*For more information, visit the COVID-19 Prevention Network:
www.coronaviruspreventionnetwork.org/about-covpn

Safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority.

- COVID-19 vaccines are being held to the **same safety standards** as all vaccines.

Before authorization

- **FDA** carefully reviews all safety data from clinical trials.
- **ACIP** reviews all safety data before recommending use.

After vaccine authorization

- **FDA** and **CDC** closely monitor vaccine safety and side effects.

Monitoring vaccine safety is a regular, ongoing part of vaccine development.

- **Existing** systems and data sources are used to monitor safety of vaccines after they are authorized or licensed, such as:
  - Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)
  - Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD)
  - Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment (CISA)
  - Biologics Effectiveness and Safety System (BEST)
- **New** systems are being developed to monitor vaccine safety, such as **v-safe:**
  - Active surveillance that uses text messaging to initiate web-based survey monitoring
  - Any clinically important events reported by a participant would be sent to VAERS for follow-up

Vaccine Safety Monitoring Resources

CDC + FDA

VAERS

Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System

co-managed by CDC and FDA

vaers.hhs.gov

Vaers.hhs.gov

V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker | CDC

Key facts about COVID-19 vaccination

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/vaccine-myths.html

COVID-19 vaccines can not give you COVID-19

People who have already gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated

Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19

COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 **viral** tests*

*https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/testing-overview.html

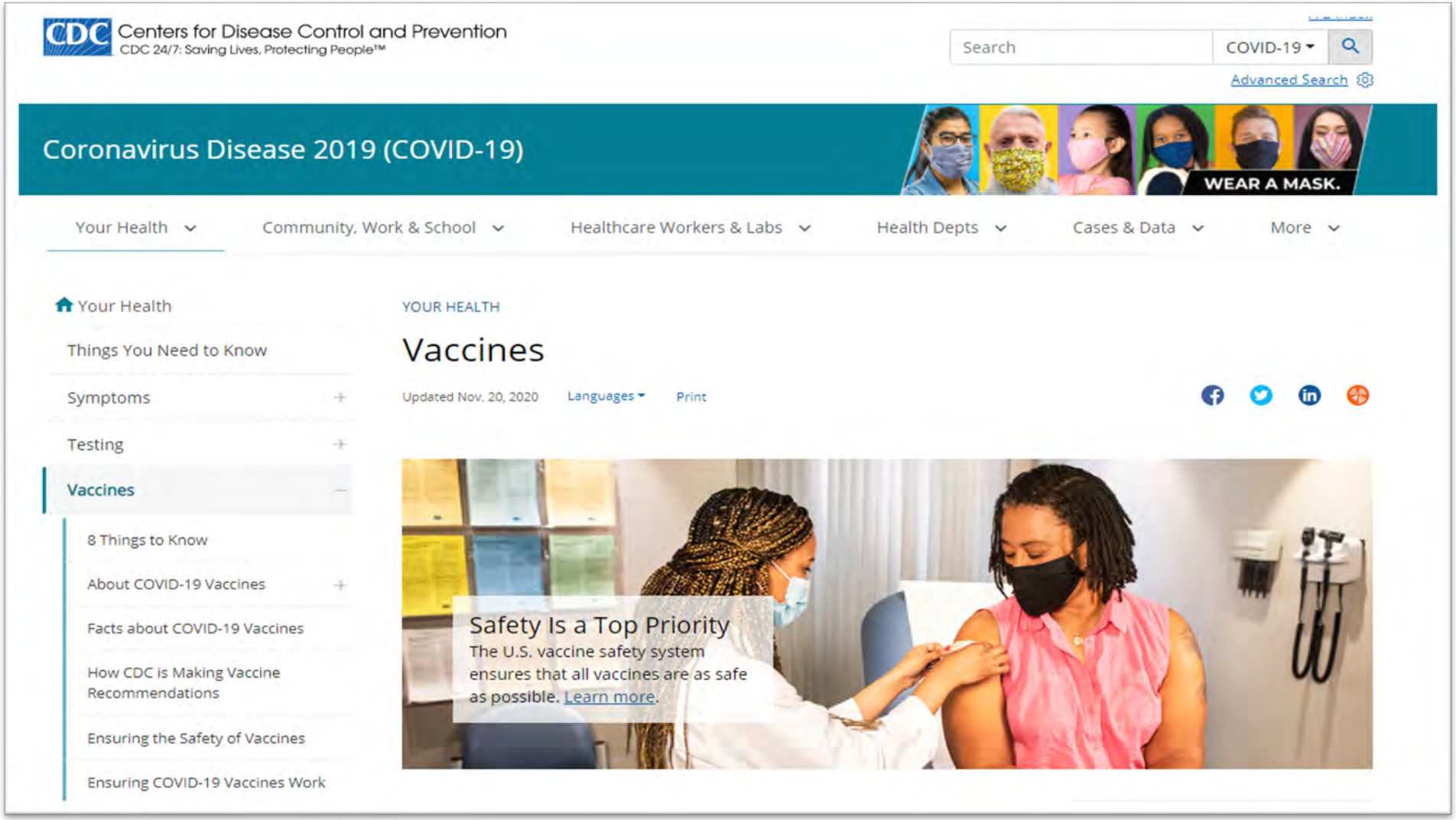
Vaccination is one measure to help stop the pandemic

- While COVID-19 mRNA vaccines appear to be highly effective, additional preventive tools remain important to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- The combination of getting vaccinated and continuing to follow CDC infection prevention and control recommendations offers the best protection from COVID-19.
  - Cover your nose and mouth with a mask.
  - Maintain social distancing.
  - Performing hand hygiene
  - Use of personal protective equipment
  - Clean and disinfect shared surfaces.

Vaccination protects yourself, your family, friends, co-workers, residents, and community

- You are all role models in your community
  - Choose to get vaccinated yourself when it is available to you.
- Participate in **v-safe** and help CDC monitor for any health effects after vaccination.
- Share your experience with coworkers, friends, and family.
- Know the basics about the COVID-19 vaccine. Help answer questions from your family and friends.
- Visibly show you received a vaccine, such as by wearing a sticker or button.

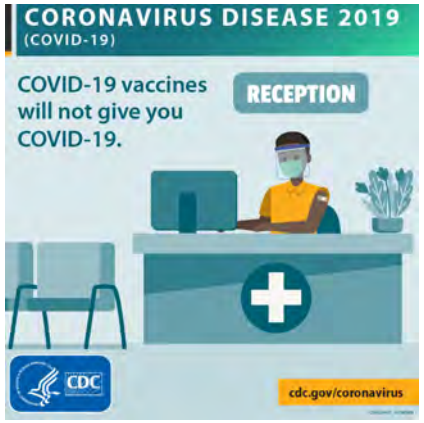
COVID-19 Vaccine information

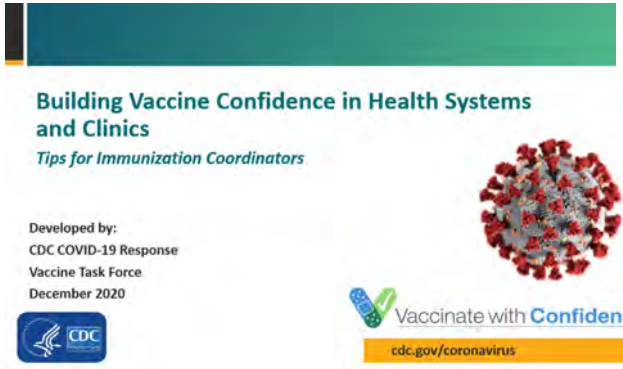


https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html

COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Resources

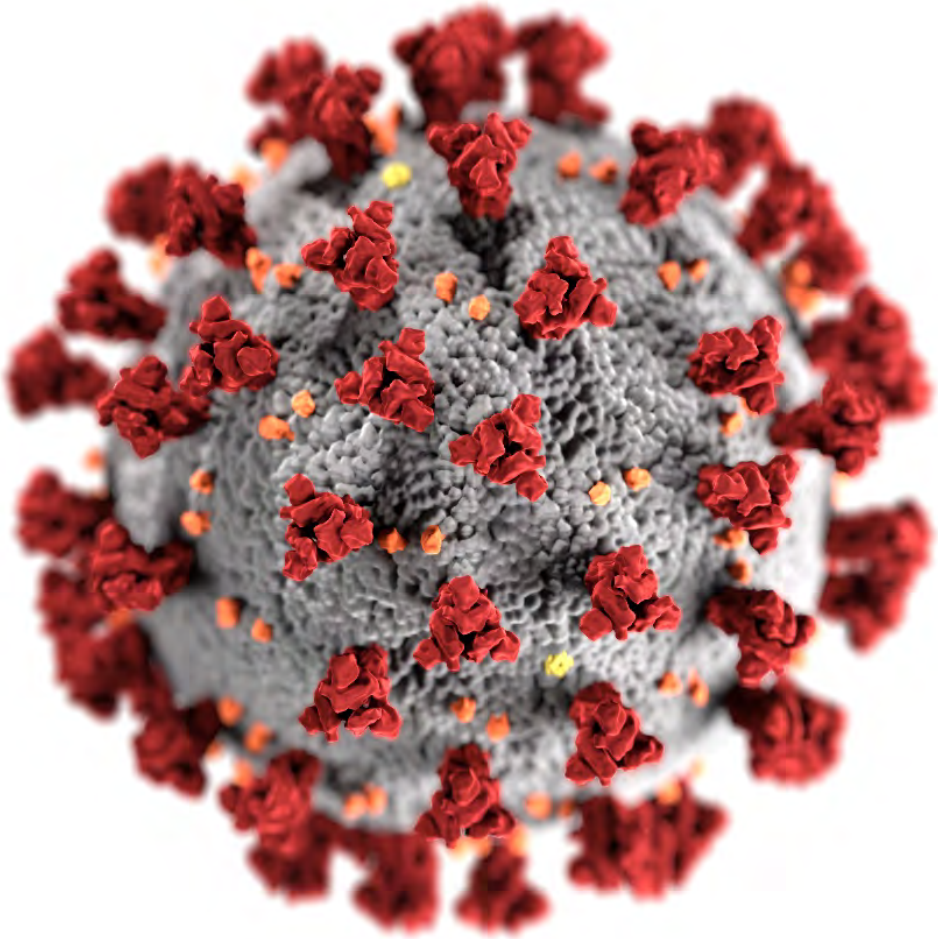
- HCP: Preparing to Provide COVID-19 Vaccines
  - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/hcp/index.html
- What to Expect at Your Appointment to Get Vaccinated
  - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect.html
- Toolkit For Medical Centers, Clinics and Clinicians
  - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/health-systems-communication-toolkit.html
- *More toolkits coming soon!*
  - *Long-term care facilities*
  - *Health departments*
  - *Community-based organizations*
  - *Employers of essential workers*





https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html

Thank you!



For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.