

COVID-19 Vaccine Myths

MYTH: The COVID-19 vaccine can affect women's fertility.

FACTS: The COVID-19 vaccine will not affect fertility. The COVID-19 vaccine encourages the body to create copies of the spike protein found on the coronavirus's surface. This "teaches" the body's immune system to fight the virus that has that specific spike protein on it. The myth originated on social media when false information was spread about the vaccine affecting a completely different spike protein related to the growth and attachment of placenta.¹

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

FACTS: Re-infection is possible and there are severe health risks associated with infection even if you have had COVID-19 previously.² Early studies have shown that natural immunity likely does not last long. Some scientists believe that the vaccine offers better protection than natural immunity.³

MYTH: Researchers rushed the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, so its effectiveness and safety cannot be trusted.

FACTS: There are many reasons why a vaccine may be developed quickly such as: the collaborative nature of the work, the project was extremely well funded, the vaccines were created using technology that allowed for faster development, and the disease is extremely contagious which allowed testing to happen quickly.⁴

MYTH: Getting the COVID-19 vaccine means I can stop wearing my mask and taking coronavirus precautions.

FACTS: Given the prevalence of the Delta variant, the CDC has recommended that fully vaccinated people wear a mask in public indoor spaces in areas of high or substantial transmission.⁵ Additionally, John Carroll University has mandated that masks be worn indoors on campus.

MYTH: The side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine are dangerous.

¹ <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines-myth-versus-fact>

² <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-myth-vs-facts-en.pdf>

³ <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines-myth-versus-fact>

⁴ <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines-myth-versus-fact>

⁵ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

FACTS: The majority of side effects are very short term, not dangerous, and a result of the vaccine stimulating your immune system.⁶ Please call your doctor if side effects persist for more than two days.⁷

MYTH: Getting the vaccine will cause me or my injection site to be magnetic.

FACTS: The vaccine contains nothing that creates an electromagnetic field, and there is no metal in the vaccine.⁸

MYTH: The vaccine isn't that effective.

FACTS: All of the vaccines available have proven to be effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19.⁹ The vaccine has also proven to be effective against the variants of COVID-19.¹⁰

⁶ <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-myth-vs-facts-en.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines-myth-versus-fact>

⁸ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

⁹ <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-myth-vs-facts-en.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-myth-vs-facts-en.pdf>