10 Things To Know About the COVID-19 Vaccines



They're here, and millions of people have already been vaccinated!

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the first vaccines for COVID-19. Health care workers were the first to receive the vaccines in the U.S., in December 2020.



They're highly effective.

Clinical trials and initial results have shown these vaccinations to be up to 95% effective in preventing illness.



They are becoming increasingly available in 2021.

Health care workers, residents of long-term care facilities, frontline workers, older adults, and people with underlying health conditions are among the first groups to receive the vaccines. As supplies increase, more vaccines will become available at doctor's offices, retail pharmacies, and other locations.

They've been thoroughly tested and reviewed for safety.

The COVID-19 vaccines have been held to rigorous standards. The FDA authorized them only after independent reviews of outcomes among a diverse group of tens of thousands of volunteers.



5 Some require two shots.

Some require one. But all of the vaccines are effective at preventing the serious cases of COVID-19 that can lead to hospitalization and death.

Serious side effects are very rare.

It's normal to experience a reaction such as pain or redness at the site the vaccine is given and, less often, headache, muscle aches, tiredness, or fever for a day or two. This shows that your body is responding to the vaccine.



They're not for children — yet.

The vaccines are being tested in clinical trials for children younger than 16.

They're free.

There is no out-of-pocket cost for anyone, regardless of whether or not you have insurance.



Your privacy is protected.

By law, your provider must protect your personal health information.

You will not be asked for a Social Security number or proof of residency to receive a vaccine.



They can make a difference for ourselves, our families, and our communities.

This vaccine is our best chance to end the pandemic. You have the power to protect yourself and your families and help our communities get back to normal.

