

# COVID-19 VACCINE FACTS & MYTHS



Vaccines are powerful tools for protecting our health and ending the COVID-19 pandemic. More than 70% of Kitsap residents have already been vaccinated. Here are some key facts to know about COVID-19 vaccines and untrue myths to ignore. Thank you for sharing reliable information in your community!



## FACT: COVID-19 vaccines were thoroughly tested for safety

COVID-19 vaccines were extensively tested in clinical trials and reviewed by medical experts before being authorized and recommended for use. Millions of Americans have been vaccinated.

#### FACT: a vaccine will help protect you from COVID-19

Studies show all of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines are effective across age, gender, racial, and ethnic groups for preventing illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19.

### **FACT:** COVID-19 vaccine side effects are mild for most people

Most people experience mild side effects, such as aching in their arm, headache, chills, or fever. Severe reactions are rare. Discuss any health concerns with your doctor.

## **FACT:** vaccination is available at no cost to you

You should not be charged for your COVID-19 vaccination. Health insurance is not required for vaccination. The government is covering the cost of vaccine supplies and administration.



# MYTH: COVID-19 vaccines can give you COVID-19

**Fact:** The vaccines do not contain the virus that causes COVID-19. Vaccines cannot give you COVID-19.

## **MYTH:** the vaccines aren't working because you can still get COVID-19

**Fact:** Data show people who get vaccinated are much less likely to get COVID-19. Vaccines are also extremely effective for preventing severe illness and death.

### MYTH: I should not get vaccinated if I am pregnant or plan to have a baby

**Fact:** There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination causes problems with pregnancy or fertility.

#### **MYTH:** VAERS data indicate vaccines are not safe

**Fact:** The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is an important tool for monitoring vaccine safety. However, anyone can submit a report to VAERS and reports are not verified. Not all events reported to VAERS are linked to vaccines.

## MYTH: COVID-19 vaccines can change your DNA

**Fact:** COVID-19 vaccines cannot change your DNA or genes. The vaccines work by teaching our immune systems how to fight off COVID-19 infection.



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