COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE

WHAT IS A VACCINE?
A vaccine is medicine that helps your body not get sick.

HOW DO I GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE?
The COVID-19 vaccine is a shot given in the arm. Right now, there are three kinds of COVID-19 vaccines which you can get, called Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson (it can also be called J&J).

HOW MANY SHOTS DO I NEED?
If you get the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you will only get one shot. If you get the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, you will get two shots.

DO I NEED TO GET TWO SHOTS?
Yes! If you get the Pfizer or Moderna shot, you need to get both shots. The medicine works best with 2 shots, taken at different times.

DOES IT MATTER WHEN I GET THE SHOTS?
Yes! If you get the Moderna shot, you need to wait 28 days to get the second Moderna shot. If you get the Pfizer shot, you need to wait 21 days to get the second Pfizer shot.

WILL I BE ABLE TO GO PLACES ONCE I GET THE SHOT?
No, you won't at first. But once enough people get both of the shots, you will be able to travel to more places.

WILL I STILL HAVE TO WEAR A MASK AFTER I GET THE SHOTS?
Yes! But not forever. You will still need to wear a mask for a while. Even though you will not get sick, other people around you will still be able to get the virus.

IF I GET THE SHOTS, CAN I STILL GET COVID-19?
Yes, but if you get sick, you will probably not feel as bad.
DO THE SHOTS HURT?
Most shots hurt for a short time, but your arm should only be a little sore for a few days.

WILL THE SHOTS MAKE ME SICK?
Some people who got the shot had a fever, a headache, felt extra tired, or had some arm soreness. This is actually good! It means the medicine is working. You may feel a little sicker after the second shot, but you should feel better in a few days. If you do not feel better in a few days, or get sick, call your doctor!

ARE THE SHOTS SAFE?
A lot of testing has been done on all three types of shots. The testing shows that the medicine is safe for almost everyone tested. Most of the people tested were not asked about having disabilities. We do not know how many people with disabilities were tested. Most scientists think that the vaccine is safe for almost everyone. COVID-19 makes people more sick than the shot.

HOW OLD DO I HAVE TO BE TO GET THE SHOTS?
The Pfizer shots can be given to people 16 years and over. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson shots can be given to people 18 years and over.

WHAT ARE THE SHOTS MADE OF?
The shots are made of medicine to teach your body how to fight COVID-19. It does not give you COVID-19.

HOW WILL I REMEMBER TO GET THE SECOND SHOT?
You will get a card with the name of the shot you received. It will also tell you a date for when to come back for the second shot if you are getting the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine.

DO I NEED TO SCHEDULE BOTH SHOTS AT THE SAME TIME?
If you can schedule both at the same time, you should. Sometimes you will schedule the second shot during your appointment for your first one.

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**This document is continually changing in an effort to keep up with information about the COVID-19 Vaccines as it becomes available. This document was last edited on April 2, 2021.**