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How to Talk to Your Community About COVID-19 Vaccines



As a trusted member of your community, you can promote important and helpful information. With your support we'll be able to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Facilitate open discussions with members of your community. [If they have questions](#), offer clear and actionable recommendations. Your answers can provide them with the confidence they need to get a vaccine and continue to protect themselves.

1. COVID-19 vaccines are here now and everyone age 12 and older can get them at no cost, regardless of your immigration or health insurance status.
2. The vaccines protect everyone, particularly essential workers and those at [high risk for severe illness](#): older adults, pregnant people, and people with certain medical conditions.
3. The COVID-19 vaccines are [safe and effective](#). Tens of millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines. The FDA authorized them only after they proved safe and effective in medical studies involving tens of thousands of volunteers.
4. Even if you've already recovered from COVID-19, it's possible that you could be infected again. That's why it's important to get a vaccine.
5. None of the available vaccines will make you sick with COVID-19. However, it's possible to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 while your body builds immunity after receiving the vaccine. So until you're fully vaccinated (2 weeks after your final dose), you should keep wearing a mask when inside public places, stay at least 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you and who may not be vaccinated, avoid crowds, and wash your hands frequently.

Get vaccinated. You have the power to keep your family safe.

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SAFETY IS THE TOP PRIORITY

The FDA and CDC have the highest standards when it comes to ensuring the safety and effectiveness of vaccines. Their process includes the following procedures:

- Scientists must first test vaccines extensively in medical studies to ensure they are safe and effective.
- Before the FDA authorizes a vaccine for use among the public, it ensures its safety by independently:
 - Reviewing the data from the medical studies, and
 - Inspecting the manufacturing facilities.
- Even after a vaccine has been authorized, the FDA and CDC closely monitor vaccine administration to identify even rare side effects or reactions.
- The FDA and CDC closely review any reports of side effects or reactions and share these facts with the public.

- The extremely rare cases of blood clotting following Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine—just a small number of cases out of millions of vaccinations—show that the FDA and CDC's vaccine safety monitoring systems work and catch even the rarest of reactions.

A thorough investigation has confirmed that Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine is safe and effective.

And doctors have been notified and trained to understand the signs to watch for and the proper course of treatment if blood clots occur.

