



Common worries about COVID-19 vaccines

This is the most up to date information as of March 2021, and it will be updated as needed. This has been reviewed by doctors and is medically accurate.



Vaccine trial safety

COVID-19 vaccine research got a lot of money, quickly, from many different countries. **No steps were skipped to make the vaccine.** COVID-19 vaccine trials had **30,000 to 45,000 people** so we have a lot of information.



Side effects

Most people have no side effects from the vaccines. Some people get pain at the injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle/joint pain, fever, or chills (like with other vaccines). Very few people may get an allergic reaction. **Other side effects are rare; Health Canada will keep checking for any long-term side effects.**



mRNA vs. DNA

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines will not change your DNA. These vaccines use a substance called messenger RNA (mRNA). The mRNA has the instructions to make a protein found on the virus. This alerts your body to make antibodies, which then attack this protein and kill the virus. The antibodies stay in our body, the **mRNA does not.**



Keep wearing masks

You will still need to wear a mask and social distance after getting the vaccine. There is a small chance you can still get sick from COVID-19 or give COVID-19 to other people even after getting the vaccine.



Pregnancy and babies

The vaccines do not affect pregnancy. The antibodies made by the vaccine attack the virus, not your body. We have information from people who had COVID-19 and were pregnant that this does **not affect fertility or cause a miscarriage in the future.**



No microchip

The vaccines do not put a chip in our bodies. There are no tiny computers, microchips, or tracking devices in the vaccines. **They cannot track people or get personal information about someone who got the vaccine.**



Ingredients

The ingredients in the vaccines are safe – there are **no blood products, mercury, fetal cells, pork, animal products, aluminum, or formaldehyde.**



Previous COVID-19 infection

You should still get the vaccine even if you have had COVID-19. You may get sick again with COVID-19 because we do not know how long you have antibodies for after an infection.

If you are unsure about what you read, check with your family doctor or nurse practitioner.

You can also visit the following Public Health websites for more information:

1. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccines-ontario>
2. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/vaccines.html>

