

Do I need to get the vaccine if I have already had COVID-19?

Yes. Reinfection is possible, so even if you have had COVID-19, it is important to get a vaccine. The protection gained from having an infection, called natural immunity, varies from person to person, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Were the vaccines tested enough?

No corners were cut regarding the scientific process and safety. As of May 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has granted Emergency Use Authorizations for three COVID-19 vaccines, which have been shown to be safe and effective after review of data from the manufacturers and findings from large, clinical trials, [according to the CDC](#).

Can the vaccine affect a woman's fertility?

No. If you are trying to become pregnant or plan to get pregnant, it is safe to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

In December 2020, [a story led with a grossly incorrect headline](#): "COVID Vaccine is Female Sterilization". The article stated, in error, that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines contain a placenta protein. Further, they said that the vaccines would train a woman's body to attack the placenta and cause infertility.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines do not contain a placenta protein or anything like a placenta protein. They do contain instructions that teach our bodies to protect us against COVID-19.

Is it safe to get vaccinated if I'm pregnant?

Yes. In fact, the [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#) writes that a pregnant woman who gets COVID-19 is more likely to become severely ill and that can put her baby at risk. Getting a vaccine helps avoid this risk. Also, the protective antibodies a mother makes after vaccination can be passed to her baby before delivery and may help protect the baby after birth. All the COVID-19 vaccines approved in the U.S. are safe to get during pregnancy.

Can I still breastfeed if I get the vaccine?

Breastfeeding is safe and encouraged after vaccination. [A recent study](#) showed that the vaccine particles do not enter breast milk, and the protective antibodies a mother develops after the vaccine are passed to her breastfeeding baby. This is important because we currently do not have COVID-19 vaccines to protect our youngest children.

Do the vaccines work against the Delta variant?

Yes. The Delta variant, which has been found in Butte and other North State counties, is highly contagious. Fortunately, our current vaccines are very effective against the Delta variant. [A 2021 study](#) showed that two doses of the Pfizer vaccine prevented almost everyone from getting so sick from COVID-19 that they had to be hospitalized.

Will the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines change my DNA?

No. They will not because they can't. A very unusual process found in only a few viruses can change a person's DNA. The COVID-19 virus does not have that process, and the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines don't have that process, either. Our bodies break down and get rid of the vaccine after it helps us make what is needed to keep us safe from COVID-19.

Could the vaccine contain a microchip that stays in my body?

No. Physically it cannot happen. [This article from The Atlantic](#) discusses why, describing the small size of the needles and the safe way that vaccine vials and syringes are handled in a vaccine clinic.