



Honest Answers About COVID-19

1. Is all the hype about the COVID variants true or is it just a scare tactic?

As much as we'd all like it to be "fake news," the variants are very real and highly contagious, and there are likely to be more. Getting vaccinated reduces your risk of severe illness, hospitalization, or death.

2. We're pretty isolated here, so what are the chances of getting COVID?

Even though we have a small population, if your community has a low vaccination rate, it can easily be passed by a visitor coming into town; by someone who works out of town— any number of ways. All it takes is one person to start a domino effect.

3. Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?

It's a valid question, but no need to worry. You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine because it does not contain the live virus.

4. If I don't have insurance, how much will the vaccine cost?

Nothing. It's 100% free and available to anyone over age 5.

5. Why should I get vaccinated? I don't go anywhere.

You may feel like you don't get out much, but you probably have more interactions than you realize. Going to church or temple; picking up groceries or seed; visiting friends or socializing with neighbors; grabbing lunch at a diner or drive-thru ... any activities like these could expose you to the virus. Because the variants are so aggressive, even the slightest exposure could put you at higher risk of becoming infected and seriously ill, if you're not vaccinated.

6. How can I be sure the vaccine won't alter my DNA?

COVID-19 vaccines tell your cells to fight the virus, but they do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.

7. I'm afraid of getting sick after I get the shot, so what am I supposed to do?

To be honest, we can't promise that you won't have some type of minor reaction. But if you do, it most likely will be related to a sore arm, tiredness, a headache, chills, a fever, or feeling a little nauseous or achy. These symptoms are usually gone within a day or two. So when you're trying to decide what to do, it might help to weigh the fear of possibly having some minor side effects with the fear of contracting a life-threatening virus.

8. Shouldn't everyone be entitled to their own opinion about the vaccine?

Absolutely. That's why local hospitals are doing all they can to make sure everyone in our rural communities have the real facts about the COVID-19 vaccine. That way, they can form an opinion based on information they know is true.