

FERTILITY FACT SHEET

Should I get a COVID-19 Vaccination?

Given the exciting results of the ongoing COVID-19 vaccine trials and expectation that vaccines will soon be available, many of our patients have questions about when and if they should get vaccinated. We wanted to provide some information that addresses common questions regarding COVID-19 vaccines.

General Information on the Timeline for COVID-19 Vaccines

- Limited COVID-19 vaccine doses may be available in 2020.
- It is anticipated that vaccine supply will increase substantially in 2021.
- The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as large quantities are available. However, not everyone will be able to get vaccinated right away.

Getting vaccines to everyone who wants them will take time. It is understandable that you may feel anxious if you cannot be vaccinated right away. We encourage you to continue taking steps to protect yourselves and others from COVID-19. Continuing to limit your exposure to individuals outside your household, wearing masks and practicing good hand hygiene will remain very important in the coming months.

Should I Get the Vaccine When it's Available?

The RSC Physicians are recommending COVID-19 vaccinations for all patients planning pregnancy once it is widely available. We feel that the COVID-19 vaccine is important to protect patients' health, as well as the health of those around you.

Please stay in close contact with your primary care physician for updates about vaccine availability. RSC will not be able to provide vaccines for patients.

If you are currently pregnant talk to your physician about your care during COVID-19.

Vaccine Safety and the Speed of Vaccine Development

"COVID-19 vaccines were tested in large clinical trials to make sure they meet safety standards. Many people were recruited to participate in these trials to see how the vaccines offers protection to people of different ages, races, and ethnicities, as well as those with different medical conditions."



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Natural Immunity vs. Immunity from Vaccines

“Both this disease and the vaccine are new. We don't know how long protection lasts for those who get infected or those who are vaccinated. What we do know is that COVID-19 has caused very serious illness and death for a lot of people. If you get COVID-19, you also risk giving it to loved ones who may get very sick. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is a safer choice.

Known Side Effects

“Most people do not have serious problems after being vaccinated. We will understand more about mild side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine before we start to use it. However, your arm may be sore, red, or warm to the touch. These symptoms usually go away on their own within a week. Some people report getting a headache or fever when getting a vaccine. These side effects are a sign that your immune system is doing exactly what it is supposed to do. It is working and building up protection to disease.”

Questions about the Potential for Unknown or Long-term Side Effects

COVID-19 vaccines are being tested in large clinical trials to assess their safety. However, it does take time, and more people getting vaccinated before we learn about very rare or long-term side effects. That is why safety monitoring will continue. CDC has an independent group of experts that reviews all the safety data as it comes in and provides regular safety updates. If a safety issue is detected, immediate action will take place to determine if the issue is related to the COVID-19 vaccine and determine the best course of action.

How Many Doses Are Needed and Why?

Nearly all COVID-19 vaccines being studied in the United States require two shots. The first shot starts building protection, but the second shot, administered a few weeks later, is critical for the vaccine to offer the most protection.

If you have additional questions please reference [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#) for regularly updated answers to common questions.