

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Vaccines





## Are the vaccines safe?

Millions of people have been given the **COVID-19 vaccine**. Side effects are rare and no long-term complications have been reported.

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## Will the vaccine give me COVID-19?

The vaccine cannot give you COVID-19.

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## It normally takes years to develop a vaccine

Researchers meet more regularly and use the internet instead of travelling. They answer questions very quickly, and non-COVID-19 research has been reduced. When testing was first announced, **250,000 people** in the UK signed up straight away, along with **hundreds of thousands** more from around the world. All these things made the process much quicker.

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## Are results from vaccine trials accurate and reliable?

- The Health Research Authority (HRA), who protect the public in health research, made sure that the research was, and still is, done properly.
  - There were **650 COVID-19 studies**, for which around **400,000 people** in the UK were recruited. All the procedures necessary to ensure the vaccines are safe were followed.
  - The vaccines met the strict safety standards of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), who make sure medicines are safe for use in the UK.
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## I'm pregnant, can I still get the vaccine?

Currently, there's no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines are unsafe if you're pregnant. Any claims made about the effect of the vaccine on fertility are not supported by data. If you have any concerns, please speak to your GP first.

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## COVID-19 vaccine ingredients

- **Approved COVID-19 vaccines do not contain any animal products** (beef, pork, gelatine or egg).
  - They do contain a medicine called mRNA which helps our bodies to make the antibodies needed to protect us from COVID-19. **mRNA cannot change or alter your DNA.**
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## COVID-19 vaccines and microchips

**It's not true that COVID-19 vaccines contain microchips. No vaccines carry them.**

**It would be impossible to inject a microchip using the needle required** to provide a COVID-19 vaccine. The microchip would be too large (at least 12mm x 2mm including casing) to be injected through a needle.

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## Should I get vaccinated?

Vaccination will help to protect you and your loved ones. **The more people are vaccinated, the safer we will all be.** The NHS has a clear vaccine plan and will contact you when it's your turn to get the vaccine. Those most at risk are being vaccinated first.



## Staying informed

There have been many rumours and scare stories about **COVID-19 vaccinations on social media**. If you are researching issues around the vaccine, please consult reputable news sources and official websites.

**While the vaccines are being rolled out, keep doing the right things to keep yourself and your loved ones safe.**



If you have symptoms of coronavirus **call 119**

**Got symptoms? Get tested!**

**If you or anyone else in your home tests positive for coronavirus, make sure you follow the self-isolation guidelines.**

