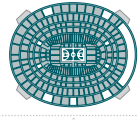


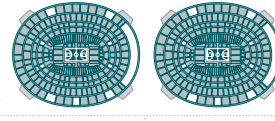
Key Points About COVID-19 Vaccines

Is it safe to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

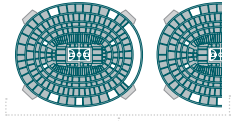
- >> Each COVID-19 vaccine has been studied in tens of thousands of people.
- >> The clinical development leading to the licensure of Shingrix (recombinant zoster vaccine, GSK) in 2017 involved about 30,000 people.
- >> There are no indications that these vaccines would be less safe than any other vaccine. The most common side effects include pain and redness at the injection site, chills, and fever.



Madison Square Garden holds about 20,000 people.



The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has been tested in more than 43,000 people.



The Moderna vaccine has been tested in more than 30,000 people.

Can the vaccine give me COVID-19?

No. Vaccination may hurt and possibly make people feel feverish or achy as a side effect, but these vaccines CANNOT give someone COVID-19. If someone who receives a COVID-19 vaccine develops a mild fever or chills, they can take acetaminophen or ibuprofen.

People say these vaccines were rushed. How was this speed possible?

- >> **COVID-19 may be new, but coronaviruses are not.** Scientists were able to leverage previous research to identify dozens of vaccine candidates quickly.
- >> **Unprecedented financial support from governments around the world** empowered scientists to tap into innovative vaccine technologies and removed financial risks.
- >> **The sheer number of vaccine candidates** being developed is one of the reasons we expect to have an approved COVID-19 vaccine available to the public in record time.
- >> **The vaccine approval process still prioritizes safety.** The need for a vaccine in this pandemic is so great that some steps were sped up or done at the same time; however, no safety steps were skipped.
- >> **Trusted public health experts, scientists, and health care providers have been involved since the beginning.** The safety of each vaccine has been reviewed and assessed by numerous independent experts.

mRNA vaccines are new. Why should I trust that they're safe?

While no mRNA vaccines have been licensed so far, mRNA vaccines have been studied for over 15 years. mRNA products were originally studied as a way to treat cancer.

Okay, so if I get the vaccine, then what?

- >> So far, studies have indicated these vaccines are very effective if people receive all of the required doses.
- >> Preliminary reports indicate that mRNA vaccines may reduce the risk of COVID-19 disease by about 95%, starting a week or two after the second dose.
- >> Masks and other social distancing strategies are still recommended by CDC.
- >> People may have to get the COVID-19 vaccine again in the future—evaluation will be ongoing.
- >> **By getting the COVID-19 vaccine now, people can take an important step toward helping everyone get back to normal daily life.**

Disclaimer: Information related to the COVID-19 pandemic is changing rapidly and continuously. The material and information contained in this publication is believed to be current as of the date included on this document. The American Pharmacists Association assumes no responsibility for the accuracy, timeliness, errors or omission contained herein. Links to any sources do not constitute any endorsement of, validity, or warranty of the information contained on any site. The user of these materials should not under any circumstances solely rely on, or act based on this publication. Pharmacy professionals retain the responsibility for using their own professional judgment and practicing in accordance with all rules, regulations, and laws governing the pharmacy practice within their jurisdiction.