

FACTS AND MYTHS ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINES

COVID-19 vaccines are not safe because they were developed and tested quickly?

FALSE

While the development process has been expedited due to the need for a vaccine, no short cuts have been taken and safety protocols or testing have not been bypassed.

All the ingredients in the vaccine, as well as the vaccine itself, have been fully checked and monitored to ensure its safety.

Vaccines contain toxic ingredients? FALSE

Vaccines contain various ingredients to keep them safe and effective. Many of the ingredients have been used for decades in billions of doses of vaccine. Each vaccine component serves a specific purpose, and each ingredient is tested in the manufacturing process. All vaccine ingredients are passed for safety.

COVID-19 vaccines can cause people to develop COVID-19? FALSE

None of the vaccines were developed using live virus and therefore no vaccine can cause you to develop a disease against which they were vaccinated.

Diseases cause me less harm than vaccines? FALSE

You are far more likely to be seriously injured by a vaccine-preventable disease than by a vaccine. Like any other medicines, vaccines may cause side effects such as fever and pain at the injection site, but these are usually minor and temporary.

Although more serious side effects are possible, these are extremely rare.

Natural immunity is healthier and more effective than vaccine-induced immunity?

FALSE

The risks of getting the virus itself are much higher than that of the vaccine. Vaccine is one of the best ways to prevent diseases and is estimated to save between 2 to 3 million lives every year.



Vaccines can weaken my immune system? FALSE

Vaccination is a simple, safe and effective way of protecting people from harmful disease before they are exposed. In fact, vaccines use our body's natural defense mechanism to build resistance against specific infections and strengthen your immune system.

Most people recover from COVID-19 infections, so it is not necessary to be vaccinated? FALSE

COVID-19 is a deadly disease that may cause severe illness. We have yet to understand its long term consequences. COVID-19 vaccines have been developed to reduce the chances of death and severe illnesses. It is also common to have virus without experiencing any symptoms, and virus can be spread to people around you without knowing.

The mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 will alter human DNA? FALSE

mRNA does not enter the nucleus of the cell and does not affect our DNA. mRNA vaccines teach our cells to make a piece of a protein that triggers an immune response. The immune response is what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine can cause facial paralysis as a side effect? FALSE

Investigation by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found that the incidence of facial paralysis was not higher than in the general population, therefore, it could not be proven that the facial paralysis cases were caused by the vaccine.

The death rate is more than usual after vaccinated with BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine? FALSE

After reviewing the deaths reported in Europe and in the WHO global database, it was concluded that there were no unexpected or untoward increase in mortality rate after frail, elderly individuals were vaccinated. The administration of the vaccine is still considered beneficial for the elderly.

References

<https://www.covidvaccine.gov.hk/en/resources>

https://www.pfizer.com/news/hot-topics/the_facts_about_pfizer_and_biontech_s_covid_19_vaccine

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