

# COMMON VACCINE MYTHS

## **Myth: The vaccines contain harmful ingredients.**

**Fact:** The COVID-19 vaccine does not contain any harmful ingredients at all. It is free from preservatives, formaldehyde, eggs, latex, and antibiotics. There are also not microchips in the vaccine, it is actually not even possible to do that.

## **Myth: The vaccine didn't have enough trials on people of color.**

**Fact:** The COVID-19 vaccine was designed with diversity in mind. The vaccine trials included a wide variety of populations, including those with diverse races, ages, weights, and health conditions. Still, it was found to be effective for all and with high efficacy rates above 90%.

## **Myth: You can get COVID from the COVID-19 vaccine.**

**Fact:** You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine because the vaccine doesn't contain any form of the live or weakened virus. It contains RNA, which instructs cells to make a harmless piece of the virus's genetic material.

## **Myth: Because the vaccines were rushed, they are not safe.**

**Fact:** The COVID-19 vaccine approval process includes decades of research followed by months of clinical development, including tens of thousands of diverse volunteers in clinical trials. The vaccines were tested thoroughly and went through the same regulatory processes that every other medicine does. It is a process that has produced safe and effective vaccines for the flu, polio, measles, mumps, whooping cough and more. The reason this vaccine moved so quickly is because the impact of COVID-19 led to unprecedented, worldwide collaboration among scientists, medical doctors, health and government officials, and manufacturers.

## **Myth: Once I get the vaccine, I don't need to wear a mask.**

**Fact:** While it's highly unlikely that you can spread COVID-19 if you're vaccinated, there's still a possibility you could get people sick. Until more research has been conducted, it's best to continue to wear a mask so you don't infect anyone.

## **Myth: The vaccine makes people infertile.**

**Fact:** Vaccines have no impact on fertility. The parts of the body responsible for an immune response and reproduction are completely separate. However, people who are pregnant are more likely to catch an illness. Because of that, it's especially important that they get vaccinated to protect themselves and their child.

## **Myth: COVID-19 is just as bad as the flu. I don't take the flu shot. I don't need to take the COVID-19 shot.**

**Fact:** While some symptoms can be similar between the two illnesses, COVID-19 and the flu are very different. A study in December 2020 that studied over 3,600 COVID patients and 12,600 flu patients found that COVID-19 patients were four times more likely to require breathing machines, nearly 2.5 times more likely to be admitted to intensive care and stayed in the hospital an average of three days longer than flu patients. Another study found COVID-19 was nearly three times more deadly than the flu.

If you're interested in learning more about the vaccine, you can call the Calhoun County Health Department at **269.969.6990**.

If you're interested in registering for the vaccine please visit [www.allincalhoun.com](http://www.allincalhoun.com) or Scan the QR Code.

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