



ROSWELL PARK COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 2021

# COVID-19 VACCINES: FACTS FIRST

## UPDATED ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS

### WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

"I've had cancer twice.  
I wanted to make sure I was  
protecting myself.  
I wanted to take care of me.  
We're human beings.  
That's our right."

- Marjorie -  
Roswell Park Patient



"I was going to wait and  
see. I told myself that  
I was going to wait  
six months to a year.  
I changed my mind  
after talking to my  
doctor at Roswell.  
It may sound a little  
corny, but Roswell's  
got my back!"

- Lavon -  
Roswell Park Patient



"As clinicians with this patient  
population, we see how horrible  
infections can be in general. If we can  
do anything to help with that, the flu  
shot, the COVID shot, anything  
we can do. It's a no-brainer."

- Michele Burgess -  
Physician Assistant, Roswell Park



### WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

The COVID-19 vaccines have the potential to be a great positive force in our lives as individuals, families and communities, but they bring with them so many questions. To help you and your family make an informed decision, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center has compiled the latest information about these preventive vaccines as well as the firsthand perspectives of individuals.

### ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINES



- ✓ The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was given full FDA approval in August 2021. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccines have been authorized for emergency use. All three have been shown to be safe and to prevent severe cases of COVID-19 in people ages 16 and up.
- ✓ The U.S. CDC and FDA have determined that all three authorized vaccines are safe and effective, and that the benefits of getting vaccinated outweigh known potential risks. We encourage you to consult with a medical provider if you have questions.
- ✓ It's normal to experience side effects such as fever, chills, soreness at the injection site and headaches after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. These responses are a sign that the vaccine is working and that your body is developing protection against the virus.
- ✓ Even if you have received one of these vaccines, there is still a small chance you could get sick with a mild form of the virus, but this is unlikely.
- ✓ The COVID-19 vaccines are safe for pregnant women and their unborn children and do not negatively impact fertility.



The three vaccines do not contain any live COVID-19 virus, so a person cannot get sick with COVID-19 just from getting the vaccine.



**THE VACCINES DO NOT CHANGE YOUR DNA IN ANY WAY.**



## LET'S START TO HEAL

1-800-ROSWELL (1-800-767-9355) | [RoswellPark.org/StartToHeal](https://RoswellPark.org/StartToHeal)

# WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE COVID-19 VACCINE TRIALS?

Number  
of people  
included  
in  
 trials




MORE THAN  
**43,400**

*moderna*

MORE THAN  
**30,400**

*Johnson & Johnson*


MORE THAN  
**43,700**

percentage that  
identified as male 

**49.4%**

**52.7%**

**52.7%**

percentage that  
identified as female 

**50.6%**

**47.3%**

**47.3%**

percentage over  
the age of 65 

**21.4%**

**25%**

**19.5%**


Number of study participants  
deemed **higher risk** for **severe  
COVID-19 infections** due to  
additional medical issues, or  
comorbidities, for each company

MORE THAN  
**18,500**  


MORE THAN  
**7,300**  


MORE THAN  
**7,800**  


## DIFFERENCES AMONG THE VACCINES

	# OF DOSES <sup>⊕</sup>	EFFICACY RATE <sup>★</sup>
	<b>2</b>	<b>94-95%</b>
<i>moderna</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>94-95%</b>
<i>Johnson &amp; Johnson</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>85.4%</b>

⊕ Required number of doses of the vaccine to be fully effective.

★ Efficacy rate for preventing severe and critical cases of COVID-19.

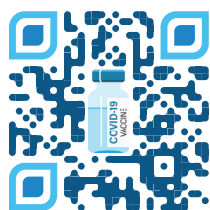
“There's no basis to pick  
one vaccine over another.  
The most important thing  
is that all three of the  
vaccines are highly effective  
at reducing severe COVID,  
meaning the number of  
hospitalizations and deaths.

MY STRONG ADVICE IS:  
**IF ONE IS OFFERED  
TO YOU, TAKE IT.”**

- Dr. Brahm Segal  
Chair, Internal Medicine, and  
Chief, Infectious Diseases  
Roswell Park



**STAY SAFE. STAY SMART.  
GET VACCINATED.**



For more information, scan the QR code or visit  
**RoswellPark.org/CovidVaccine**

Information in Spanish can be found at  
[espanol.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines](https://espanol.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines)