

Frequently Asked Questions



Once I have 2 doses of vaccine, do I still need to wear a mask?

YES!

- ❖ As experts continue to study the virus and learn more, updated recommendations will follow - for now, it is safest to keep wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing
- ❖ Even when vaccinated, you can still contract SARS-CoV-2

How long does it take for the vaccine to work?

- ❖ Both vaccines reach full effectiveness about 2 weeks after the second dose
- ❖ It is possible you can have some protection after just one dose, but neither vaccine was studied this way and are not intended as single dose
- ❖ As noted earlier, it is unknown how long the protection will last (i.e. will we need this annually, like the flu shot)

Can I get the virus from the vaccine?

NO!

- ❖ mRNA vaccines do not use the live virus that causes COVID-19
- ❖ mRNA never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA (genetic material) is kept
- ❖ The cell breaks down and gets rid of the mRNA soon after it is finished using the instructions

Are these the only vaccine options?

YES!

In the U.S., at this time, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are the only *authorized* vaccines. However, this is what is “on the horizon:”

1. Single Shot Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine (Johnson & Johnson) - currently called “Ensemble”; from a statement on the J & J website - *The Company intends to file for U.S. Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) in early February and expects to have product available to ship immediately following authorization*
2. AstraZeneca - approved for use in adults in the EU (European Union) on Friday, Jan 29th
3. Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (*PREVENT-19*) - in an article dated Jan 28th, it was noted...*Significant progress on PREVENT-19 Clinical Trial in US and Mexico...targeted enrollment is expected to complete in the first half of February*