

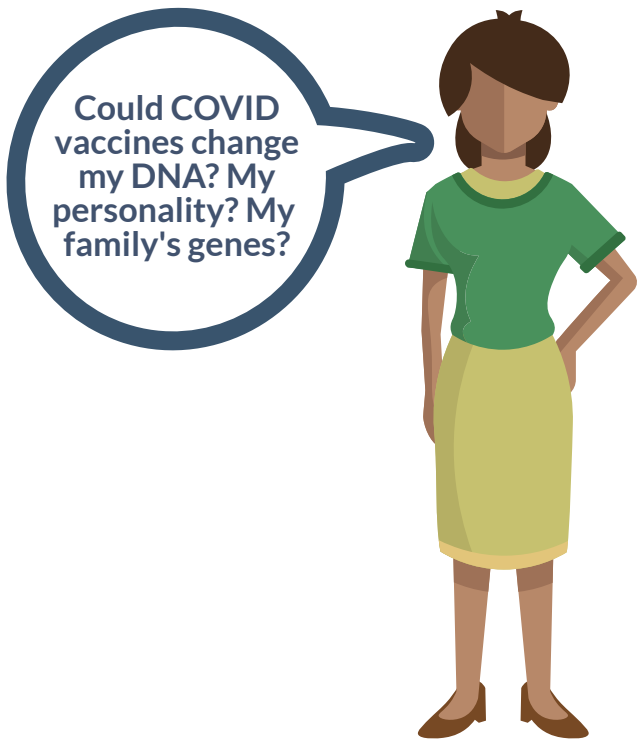
Is It True?

COVID-19 VACCINE FACT CHECKING


1 COVID-19 vaccines will NOT alter your genes or DNA.

Both the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines use Messenger RNA (or mRNA), a substance our bodies naturally produce. mRNA teaches our bodies to protect us by making antibodies and other infection-fighting cells.

The mRNA from a COVID-19 vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell - where our DNA is kept. This means the mRNA cannot affect our DNA in any way. Once the mRNA has finished teaching our cells, enzymes break down the mRNA so it's no longer in our bodies.



Could COVID vaccines change my DNA? My personality? My family's genes?



Can I get COVID-19 from a vaccine?

2 COVID-19 vaccines will NOT infect you with the coronavirus.

There is no virus in mRNA vaccines, like the approved Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.

Moderna and Pfizer vaccines use mRNA. mRNA instructs our cells to make a protein that looks exactly like the one found on the surface of the COVID-19 virus. Our bodies learn to identify that protein so that they can step up an immune response if a COVID-19 virus enters the body.

There is no COVID-19 virus in mRNA vaccines. You can't get coronavirus from getting vaccinated.



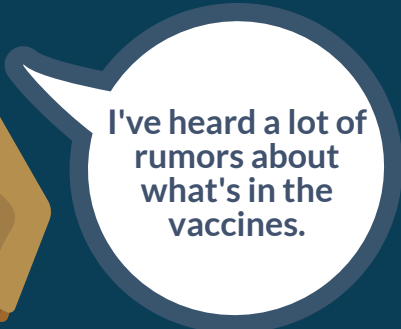
3

COVID-19 vaccines can cause mild flu-like symptoms, but extreme reactions are very rare.

It's possible to experience side effects like a headache, sore arm, fatigue or fever in the day or two after you get the shot. But these side effects do not last long and are signs that the vaccine is working.

Severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) are very rare, but can happen, especially in people that already have severe allergic conditions. All reactions are treatable.

Safeguards are in place, just in case. After you are vaccinated, you will be asked to wait at the clinic for 15 minutes. Medical staff will make sure you don't have a severe allergic reaction to the vaccine.



4

COVID-19 vaccines do NOT contain tracking chips, fetal tissue, pork products, harmful metals or toxic ingredients.

The key ingredient in both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines is a genetic material called mRNA. mRNA tells your cells how to recognize COVID-19 and protect you from infection. The vaccines also contain lipids, salts, and sugar. They have fewer ingredients than the average bag of potato chips!

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines do not contain any preservatives. That is why they must stay frozen until they are thawed for use.

5

COVID-19 vaccine will reduce hospitalizations and deaths in communities of color.

How do we know that COVID vaccines are effective for Black, Indigenous, and people of color?



Before COVID-19 vaccines were developed, activists and advocates raised concerns about the historical and ongoing harm inflicted by medical and government institutions on Black, Indigenous, and people of color. Thanks to their efforts, the tens of thousands of people that took part in the COVID-19 vaccine trials reflect the diversity of our population. Trials included 10% Black or African American, about 4-5% Asian, 15-20% Hispanic/Latino, and 0.5%-1% American Indian/Alaskan Native volunteers.

In addition, people of color played leadership roles in the development of COVID vaccines. For example, Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, a Black scientist, is the National Institute of Health's lead for coronavirus vaccine research.

Black, Native American, Latino, and Pacific Islander communities have experienced significantly higher rates of hospitalization and death from COVID-19 in King County. These communities will be among those who benefit most from the protection that vaccination offers. King County is committed to ensuring that they have equitable access to vaccination. Everyone deserves to be protected!

Additional Resources



For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine and to determine if you are eligible: kingcounty.gov/vaccine



Learn about COVID-19 care, testing, isolation/quarantine, and resources for organizations: kingcounty.gov/covid



For COVID-19 medical questions or for help scheduling a COVID-19 test or vaccine appointment, call: (206) 477-3977 any day from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Interpreters available.