



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND COMMON CONCERNS

Does the vaccine work?

- Yes!
- Can keep your child from getting COVID-19
- More protected from serious illness
- Highly effective at preventing hospitalization and death
- If a breakthrough case is experienced, vaccinated individuals appear to be infectious for a short period of time

What about the possibility of long term effects from the vaccine?

- Long term side effects or health problems are extremely unlikely following vaccination
- Rare cases of short term pericarditis or myocarditis have been reported
- A Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) is in place to quickly address any correlation of vaccine and side effects. Information is reported to the CDC, FDA, and various other organizations who are equipped to address any potential issues

The vaccine trial was rushed

- This vaccine was developed quickly, however quick development ≠ Trial Shortcuts
 - mRNA technology has been around for decades
 - Many trials require a set number of individuals to be enrolled. With the high prevalence of COVID-19, it was not difficult to recruit the adequate numbers of individuals needed to show safety and effectiveness
 - Vaccine development still went through all the required stages of clinical trials

MYTH

Concern over mRNA technology

- mRNA is used by the body to mimic one of the proteins in the virus that causes COVID-19
- This causes your immune system to react defensively and be prepared if you are exposed to COVID-19 at a later time
- mRNA is only present in the body for a short period of time and it will NOT alter your genetic material

SOURCES

<https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-announce-positive-topline-results>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/adolescents.html>