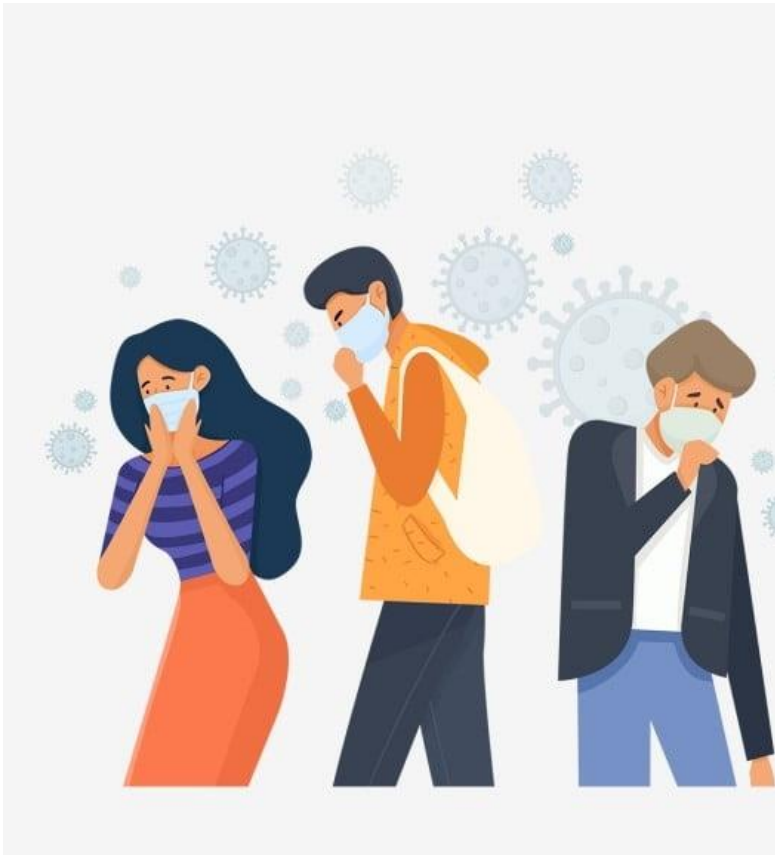


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# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

What I need to know about COVID-19 and the COVID-19 vaccine

Covid-19 is an infection caused by the coronavirus.



COVID-19 is like a flu or cold virus and spreads when someone who has it coughs, sneezes or talks to another person. The virus spreads easily and quickly!

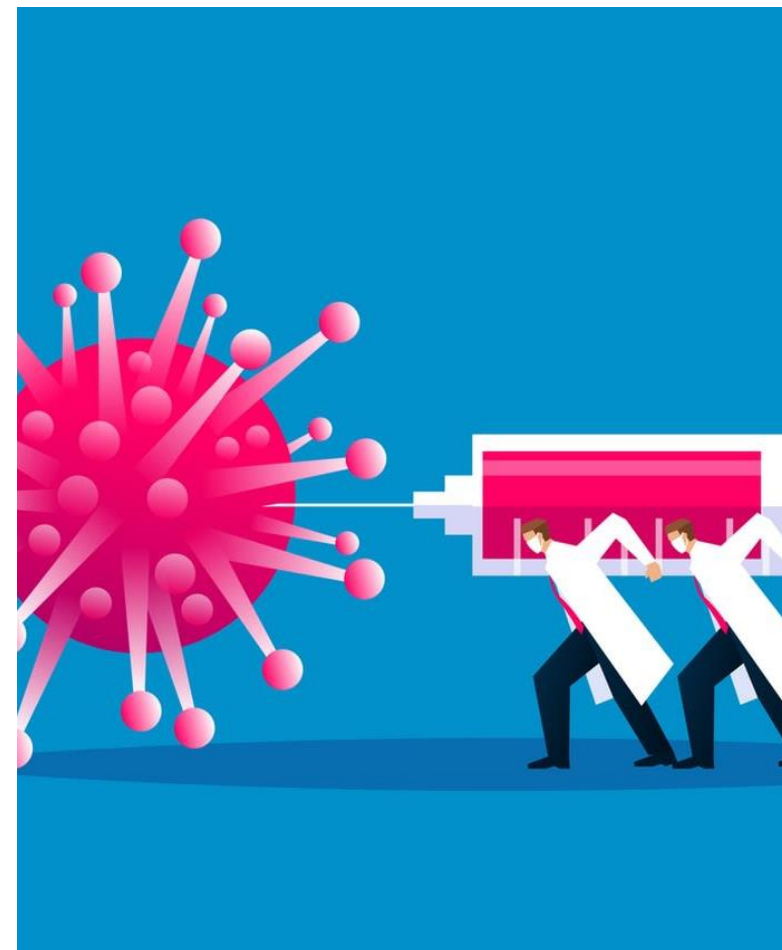
Scientists have been working hard to make a vaccine that will help protect us from COVID-19.



They have made a COVID-19 vaccine that is available now and everyone around the world is getting it.

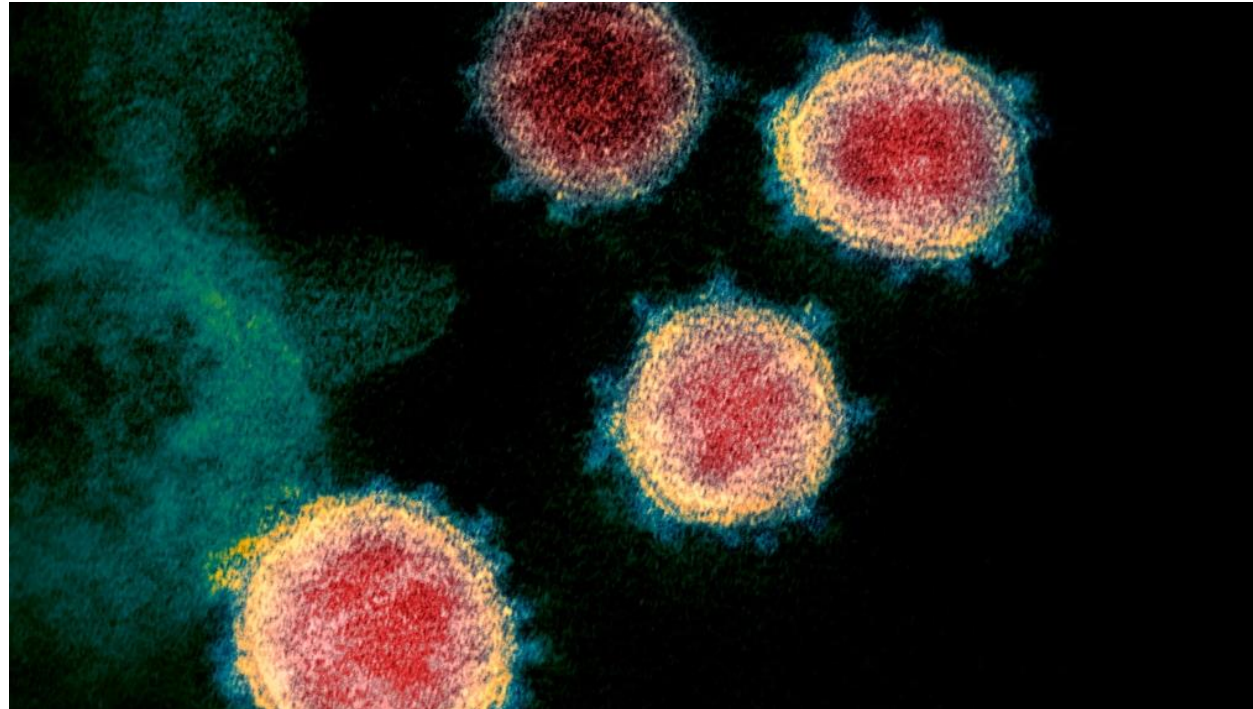
This means that I could be getting the COVID-19 vaccine very soon.

- It is important that I get the COVID-19 vaccine to protect myself and other people from getting sick.
- Doctors and scientists think less people will get sick from Covid-19 if more people have the vaccine.



The COVID19 vaccine is like other vaccines I may have gotten before, like the flu shot or a tetanus shot.

It will make my body stronger to fight COVID-19.



- The vaccine is for anyone who could get the virus. This includes people who had the virus before and for people who have not had the virus.
- Most people will be able to get the vaccine, but there are some people who **should not** get the vaccine, like
  - people under the age of 16
  - those who had an allergic reaction to another vaccine
  - people who have current Covid-19 symptoms.
- If I am unsure if I should get the vaccine, I can talk to a doctor. A caregiver or staff member can help me to do this.



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# COVID-19 VACCINE

WHAT I NEED TO KNOW BEFORE I GET THE VACCINE

- Safety
- Side Effects
- Allergies
- Medication
- Who is paying for it
- Who will get it first
- What you need to do

# SAFETY

- Doctors and scientists have done lots of work to make sure it is safe to use. Before I get the vaccine, I will be asked questions to make sure that it is safe for me.



- You will need two shots a couple of weeks apart.
- Few people have serious side effects or allergic reactions.



# SIDE EFFECTS

Side effects are not likely, but some of these things can happen.

- Hives
- Face or mouth gets swollen or puffy
- Skin looks pale
- Feel like fainting
- Fever
- Seizure

If you feel any of these side effects in the 3 days after the vaccine, call 911 or tell your caregiver or staff and they will help you.

# ALLERGIES

- Very few people are allergic to vaccines.
- The doctors, nurses, and workers will watch me closely after giving me the vaccine. They are there to keep me safe.
- If I have concerns about an allergic reaction to the vaccine, I can talk to my doctor. My caregiver or staff will help look for signs of side effects and allergies.



# MEDICATION

- Most people who take different medications will not have to worry about how their medications mix with the vaccine.
- If I have any concerns about my medication and the vaccine, I can talk to my doctor.



# WHO IS PAYING FOR THE VACCINE

- The Government of Canada is paying for everyone's vaccine.
- This means that the vaccine is free for me.



FREE



# WHO WILL GET THE VACCINE FIRST

- You will get the vaccine soon. Community Living Toronto is working to make sure you and the others in your house get it soon.



# WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- is your decision to make.
- Your worker is ready to help you make this decision.
- If you want the vaccine, you will need to sign a form saying you agree to get it.
- After that, you will find out soon when you will get the vaccine.



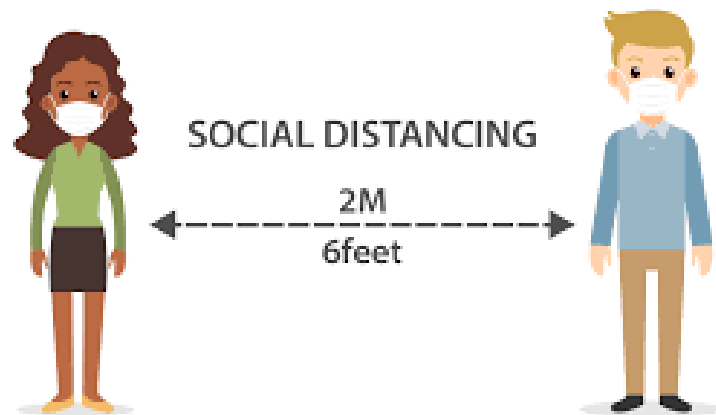
# COVID-19 VACCINE

## WHAT I NEED TO KNOW WHEN I GET THE VACCINE

- SAFETY AT THE APPOINTMENT
- HOW TO PREPARE
- WHAT WILL HAPPEN
- WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER MY VACCINE
- HOW MANY TIMES DO I NEED TO GET THE VACCINE

# SAFETY AT THE APPOINTMENT

- Everyone is being very careful to make sure no one gets COVID-19 when they get their vaccine. Strict safety rules will be in place.
- This means when I go for my vaccine, I will need to wear a mask, wash my hands and stay 6 feet away from people as much as possible.





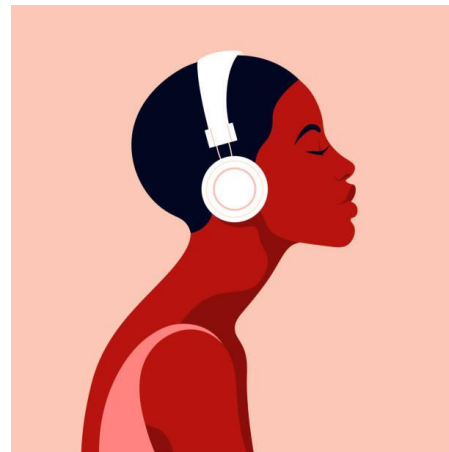
# HOW TO PREPARE FOR MY APPOINTMENT

If I am stressed or nervous about my vaccine, I can do activities that keep me calm, like:

Deep breathing



Listening to music



Going for a walk,



# WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN I GET THE VACCINE?



The doctor/nurse/pharmacist will apply an alcohol swab on my upper arm to clean the area.



I will sit still. The needle is put in my upper arm, this will pinch.



Once I get the needle, I will wait for 15 minutes in the waiting area.



I did a good job! I am proud of myself. My caregiver/staff will let me know how proud they are of me.

# WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER MY VACCINE

- I can carry on doing my regular routine.
- I might have sore muscles, a red spot where the needle went in, or a low fever after I get the vaccine. This is okay and normal! I can use an ice pack to make it feel better.
- If I don't feel well or am worried, I can call the doctor or nurse. They are here to help.
- If I am very unwell, I should call 911.



# HOW MANY TIMES DO I NEED TO GET THE VACCINE

I will need to get the vaccine **2 times**. This means after I get my first vaccine, I will need to get my second vaccine shortly after.



It is very important that I get my second vaccine to make sure it works.



# COVID-19 VACCINE

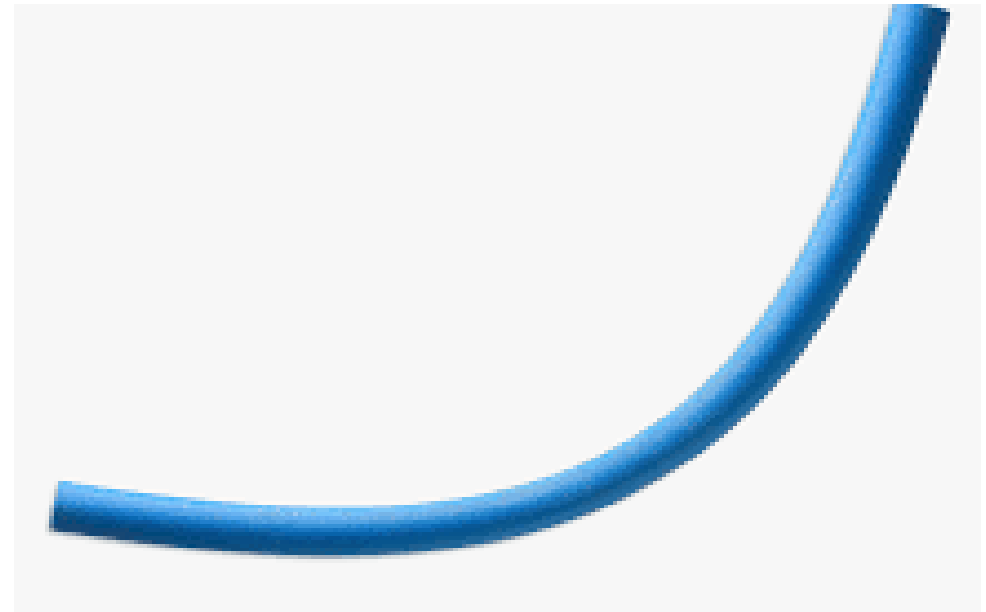
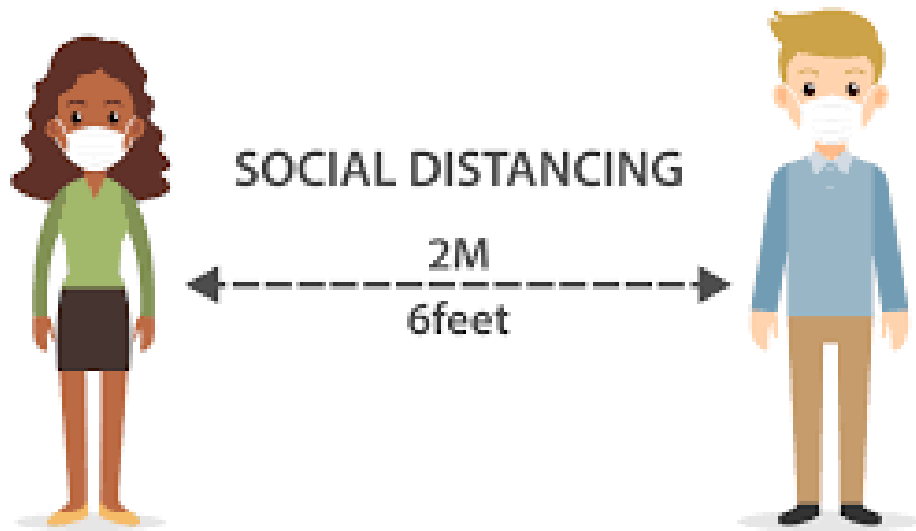
LIFE AFTER I GET THE VACCINE



- Even though the COVID-19 vaccine is here and many people will be getting vaccinated, life will not go back to normal right away.
- It is going to take a long time for everyone to get fully vaccinated. This means COVID-19 rules will be around for a while.
- After I am vaccinated, I will need to follow all the Covid-19 rules to keep myself and the people around me safe.



TO KEEP SAFE, I CAN CONTINUE TO DO THINGS THAT I HAVE BEEN DOING SO WELL, SUCH AS SOCIAL DISTANCING.



This means keeping 2 meters/6 feet distance from others **OR** the length of 1 pool noodle apart.

WEARING A MASK OR FACE COVERING THAT COVERS MY NOSE AND MOUTH.



This is especially important when it is difficult to physical distance from others, such as going to a medical appointment or in my home.



CLEANING MY HANDS OFTEN USING SOAP AND WATER OR HAND-SANITIZER (IF SOAP AND WATER IS NOT AVAILABLE).



# I SHOULD WASH MY HANDS WHEN:

- ✓ I come in from outside.
- ✓ After I have touched a surface or item from outside.
- ✓ Before I touch my face.
- ✓ Before I eat.



# STAYING AT HOME AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

- The only times I should be leaving home is for medical appointments, essential goods (like food and medication), or to work.
- This means I can connect with my family and friends through phone, video or email.

LEARNING ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE, MIGHT MAKE ME FEEL DIFFERENT EMOTIONS.



IT IS *OKAY* TO FEEL THIS WAY.



I have people in my life who are here to  
support me.

If I have questions or need support I can  
talk to them.