**Things to Know About the COVID-19 Vaccination**

Now that the United States has a vaccine shot that works for people, here are some things you need to know about the new COVID-19 Vaccination process.

The safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority.
- COVID-19 vaccines were carefully tested in clinical trials before being approved to use.
- Trials have been done all around the world.
- COVID-19 vaccines will NOT give you COVID-19 because they do not use a live virus.
- COVID-19 vaccines will NOT cause you to test positive if you have a COVID-19 test.

**Who Should Get the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

Medical workers and other essential front-line workers will be the first to get the vaccine. Other priority groups include:

- Individuals who have a direct support worker in the home or who takes them out into the community.
- Direct support workers and family members who care for individuals with disabilities.
- Individuals who have breathing problems, asthma, seizures and those who get sick easily (weakened immunity systems).
- Individuals with disabilities who live with others who are not related to them.
- Individuals with disabilities who live in a licensed or certified care home.
- Anyone who is over the age of 65.

**Why Should I Get the COVID-19 Shot?**

- A vaccine is important to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- It is a safe way to protect yourself from getting COVID-19.
- It will help protect others around you.
- It will help us get back to regular activities faster.
Are There Side Effects from Getting the Shot?
Yes. Your body may feel different after the shot. This is called having side effects. If the area around your shot looks different, tell a trusted adult right away or call your doctor.

- You may have a headache or cough.
- You may get a slight fever or chills.
- You might be really tired for a few days.
- Your arm might be sore in the area where you got your shot.
- You might feel nausea or sick to your stomach.
- These side effects should go away in a few days.

Keep Yourself and Others Safe
It may take a year before most people are vaccinated and it is safe to gather in large groups and not wear a mask all the time. Until that time, be sure to stay safe when you are around others.

- Wear a mask when you leave your home
- Wash your hands often
- Keep social distancing
- Do not gather in large groups

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Source: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/health-systems-communication-toolkit.html
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