COVID-19 Vaccines

Questions on Fertility - Separating Fact from Fiction

How do the COVID-19 vaccines work?

- Vaccines help our bodies fight against germs without getting sick from the disease.
- Through different processes, the COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen) tell our cells to make a harmless piece of the “spike protein.”
- The spike protein is found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. Our body can tell that this protein doesn’t belong and begins making antibodies (proteins that help your body fight the germ).
- If you ever come across the COVID-19 virus in the future, your body can fight it.

Will COVID-19 vaccines change my DNA?
No. None of the COVID-19 vaccines interact or change our DNA (genetic material).

Is getting sick with COVID-19 more dangerous for pregnant people than those who are not pregnant?
Yes, pregnant people are at increased risk for severe illness, preterm birth (delivering the baby earlier than 37 weeks) and possibly pregnancy loss (miscarriage). COVID-19 vaccines can help protect you!

Will the COVID-19 vaccines affect fertility?
There is NO evidence suggesting that fertility problems are a side effect of ANY COVID-19 vaccine. If you are trying to become pregnant now or want to get pregnant in the future, you are recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not recommend routine pregnancy testing before COVID-19 vaccination, and you do not need to avoid pregnancy after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Can I get the COVID-19 vaccine if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?
Yes! COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future.

For More Information:
covid19.nj.gov/vaccine
cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/vaccines/recommendations/pregnancy.html
cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html

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