

#### **Common Concerns**

- Mistrust based on historic and contemporary mistreatment of Black, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian communities
- · Vaccine developed under political pressure
- Vaccine is new and developed quickly
- Lack of universal trusted source of information, different sources of different information, inconsistent information

Concerns of vaccine hesitancy are valid, respectable, and should be answered by a qualified physician or agency

#### **Benefits of Getting Vaccine**

- Vaccination protects you, your family, and your community from any symptomatic COVID-19
  - Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are both 95% effective in preventing ANY symptoms of COVID-19
  - Annual flu vaccines are usually only 40-60% effective yet they have reduced the flu, severe cases of the flu, and death
- Reduces the chance of hospitalization and death from COVID-19
- Being unvaccinated may increase your risk of getting COVID-19 and serious long-term complications









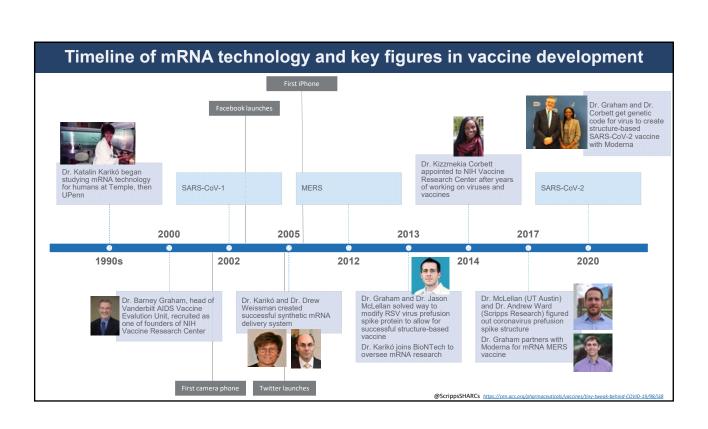
#### **Vaccine Development**

Was the vaccine rushed?

- Scientists developed vaccine, not the government
- Vaccine was developed and tested quickly, but safely. There were no "skipping" of steps.
- Lots of government and private funding + more cooperation across scientific labs nationally and internationally = multiple expensive clinical trials at the same time
- Vaccine technology has been studied for many years
  - Think of it like when we moved from rotary phones to cellular phones

## What is in the vaccine? How does the vaccine work?

- The vaccine includes protein (mRNA), fats (called lipids), salt and sugar (preservatives)
- The vaccine has no animal products (halal) or thimerosal. No fetal tissue was used to make the vaccine. These vaccines do not contain any parts of the coronavirus and cannot cause COVID-19.
- Cannot alter your DNA in any way
- The mRNA is a messenger that teaches your body how to recognize and respond to COVID-19. Then it disappears.
  - Like Snapchat
- mRNA technology has been studied for over 30 years



## Were people like me part of the clinical trials?

Over 70,000 people participated in Pfizer and Moderna trials and were equally safe for all:

- Adults, **all ages** (65+, over 85% effective)
- Race/ethnicities (Black, Latino, other communities of color, over 95% effective)
- Chronic conditions (about 90% effective)

The vaccine is safe and can prolong your immunity if you have already had COVID-19.









# Race/Ethnicity in COVID-19 Clinical Trials

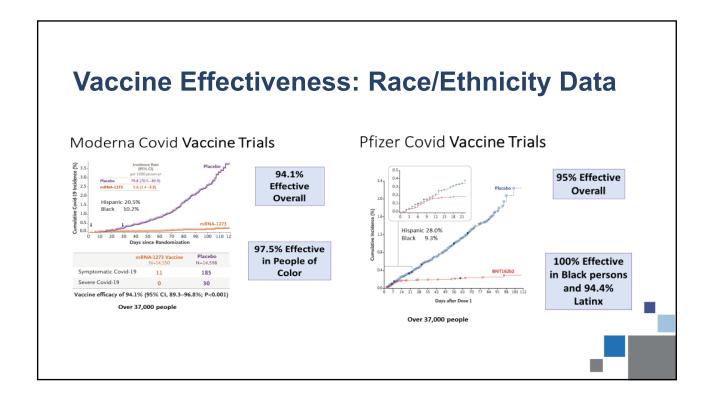
Moderna and Pfizer clinical trials included a broad range of diverse participants

#### Moderna

Percent	Racial/Ethnic group
20.5%	Hispanic/Latino
9.7%	Black
4.7%	Asian
2.1%	Multiracial
0.8%	American Indian
0.2%	Pacific Island

#### Pfizer

Percent	Racial/Ethnic group
26.2%	Hispanic/Latino
9.8%	Black
4.4%	Asian
2.5%	Multiracial
0.6%	American Indian
0.2%	Pacific Island

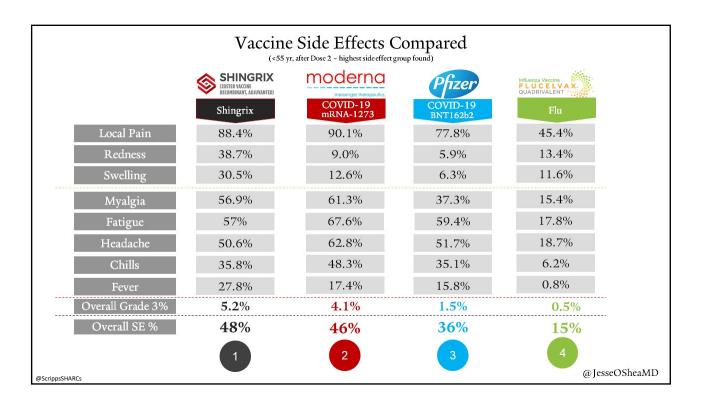


#### **Side Effects**

- Most side effects are mild, may occur over a few days, and can be stronger after your second dose.
- Common side effects include pain or muscle ache, fatigue, headache, nausea, chills, and fever.
  - After vaccination, medical personnel will monitor you for 15 minutes to ensure you get any necessary treatment if you have a reaction (medical treatment & personnel <u>on site</u>)

#### **Side Effects**

- Serious side effects are rare. The vaccine is safe for you if you have seasonal, pet, or food allergies.
  - If you have a history of anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions), previous vaccine reactions, are allergic to polysorbate or ethylene glycol, talk to your doctor.
  - There is no evidence the vaccine affects fertility.
- Talk to your doctor if you: are immunocompromised or are taking medication that affects your immune system, have been unable to receive vaccinations in the past because of a blood thinner or a bleeding disorder, have a fever, are pregnant, or plan to become pregnant.

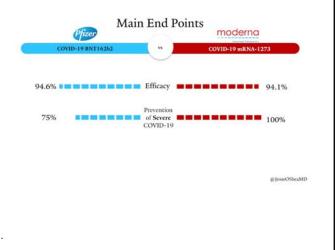


## Which vaccine is better? Can I choose?

Both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are about 95% effective.

At this point, due to limited supply, you cannot choose.

- Pfizer and Moderna each have two doses, spaced apart 3-4 weeks.
- Your first shot needs to be the same as your second shot.
- Pfizer approved for people over 16; Moderna is approved for people over 18.



#### Do I need both shots?

Yes. The current vaccines have two doses, spaced apart 21 or 28 days. It is possible to get infected with COVID-19 before your second dose because you are not yet fully protected.

## Will I have to take the vaccine again?

- Scientists are not sure how long the vaccines will protect people. They are continuing to monitor the data in order to make recommendations. It's possible there will be a need for booster shots in the future.
- What is known is that you need both doses (shots) for the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines to be effective.

## Will the vaccines protect against new mutations?

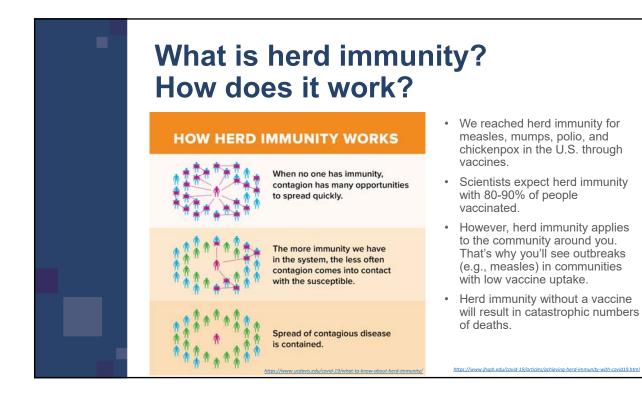
So far, the current vaccines appear to still protect you against the new mutation (it doesn't appear to be a significant change).

#### How much will it cost?

The vaccines have been covered by taxpayer dollars, so they will be free to everyone.

# Why are some communities, such as Black, Latinx, American Indian, Pacific Islander, or Asian American, being encouraged to get the vaccine?

- Some communities (such as Black/African American, Latino/x, American Indian, Pacific Islander, Indigenous, and Asian populations) may be offered the vaccines earlier than others because their infection, hospitalization, and death rates have been disproportionately high.
- This is related to higher rates of exposure (essential work, multigenerational households, etc). For this same reason, prevention is crucial.



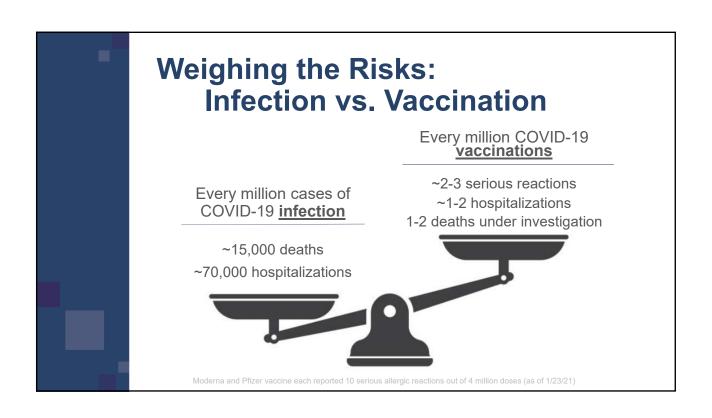
# Should I get the vaccine even if I already had COVID-19?

Yes. Protection from the vaccine is safe and can prolong your immunity. You can wait up to 90 days after infection for vaccination but can receive it as soon as local regulations allow.

# Do I still need to wear a mask after getting the vaccine?

Yes. The vaccines protect YOU from getting sick from COVID-19, but it is unclear whether you may still get mild or symptom-free cases, then transmit COVID-19 to others. Continue to follow public health guidelines, such as wearing a mask, social distancing, and avoiding indoor crowds.







### **Key Takeaways**

- Lot of misinformation in social media and word-of-mouth
- Black, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian communities are contracting disease and dying at higher rates
- "Side effects" of contracting COVID-19 disease is far worse than side effects of getting the vaccine
- Why consider taking vaccine if you have mistrust? Because we want everyone to stay alive today to help fight mistrust tomorrow.





#### Resources

- STOP COVID-19 CA website: https://www.stopcovid-19ca.org/
- COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ in community-friendly language: <a href="English">English</a> and <a href="Spanish">Spanish</a>
- NIH CEAL (Community Engagement Alliance) Against COVID-19 Disparities website: <a href="https://covid19community.nih.gov/">https://covid19community.nih.gov/</a>
- CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Communications Toolkit for CBO: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/toolkits/community-organization.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/toolkits/community-organization.html</a>
- CDC COVID-19 website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- ASTHO (Association of State and Territorial Health Officials) COVID-19 website: <a href="https://astho.org/COVID-19/">https://astho.org/COVID-19/</a>



# What safeguards are in place now to protect people of color?

The Belmont Report was created in response to the Tuskegee Syphilis Study – it applies to all people but was done in response to mistreatment to people of color

- **3 principles** for ethical conduct of research involving human participants: 1) **Respect** for persons; 2) **Beneficence**; and 3) **Justice**.
- Institutional Review Board (IRB), must approve every US clinical trial.
  - The IRB is made up of doctors, scientists, and **lay people**, dedicated to making sure that the study participants are not exposed to unnecessary risks.
- Informed consent process also helps protect participants.
  - Before joining a clinical trial, study participants will be told what to expect and all the things that might happen.
- · Large clinical trials have a Data Safety Monitoring Board
- · New medications and vaccines also go through FDA Review



