

Covid vaccine mythbuster



There's a lot of misinformation out there about the Covid-19 vaccines. So, we've tackled some of the biggest myths that are doing the rounds to help keep you in the know. Visit [nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk) for more information.

The vaccines contain animal products

The vaccines that have been approved in this country have no animal products associated with their production and storage.

The vaccines contain Covid so they are dangerous

These vaccines are synthetic vaccines. They've been artificially produced and they don't contain the whole virus and they're not infecting you with a modified form of the coronavirus itself. They just contain bits of the virus. This means there's no risk of healthy people catching a disease from a vaccine.

One dose is enough protection, I don't need two

One of the concerns with this family of viruses is that after a while your immunity to it starts to decrease, so there is the possibility of getting re-infected. Getting a second booster shot minimises that risk, giving you longer protection.

The vaccine has been rushed through and isn't as safe as it should be

Whilst scientists have done an amazing job to provide a vaccine in under a year, they have not ignored safety testing. All vaccines, go through three phases of testing. And these vaccines have gone through the exact same three phases that all vaccines go through.

BAME groups are under-represented in vaccine trials so risks to BAME groups are higher

The vaccines are representative of a cross section of different people, ages and ethnicities.

The vaccines have a microchip

No one can implant any chip into anyone and no one has ever attempted to. It would be completely illegal to do that without your consent.



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There's no point getting a vaccine that isn't 100% effective

Vaccines teach your immune system how to create antibodies that protect you from diseases. It's much safer for your immune system to learn this through vaccination than by catching the diseases and treating them. If you did get the virus after having the two vaccine doses, you will:

- Get a less severe disease
- Not need to get hospitalised
- Recover faster

Vaccines can alter your DNA

The Pfizer vaccine uses a fragment of the virus DNA to trigger antibodies in a person but this does not alter the person's DNA.

Vaccines contain the lung tissue of an aborted foetus

None of the UK's approved vaccines contain human tissue.

Vaccines can cause autism

There have been multiple different studies looking at hundreds of thousands of children in different countries and no link has been found between vaccines and autism.

The effectiveness of vaccinations has never been proven

Vaccination is the most important thing we can do to protect ourselves against Covid and other diseases. In general, they prevent up to 3million deaths worldwide every year. Since vaccines were introduced in the UK, diseases like smallpox, polio and tetanus that used to kill or disable millions of people are either gone or seen very rarely. Other diseases like measles and diphtheria have been reduced by up to 99.9% since their vaccines were introduced. However, if people stop having vaccines, it's possible for infectious diseases to quickly spread again.

Many people are allergic to the vaccine

It's rare for anyone to have a serious allergic reaction to a vaccination. If this does happen, it usually happens within minutes. The person who vaccinates you will be trained to deal with allergic reactions and treat them immediately. With prompt treatment, you or your child will make a good recovery.

Covid-19 vaccines will affect female/male fertility

There is no evidence or data to suggest that Covid-19 vaccines will affect fertility. This is not just the view of governments and regulatory and expert advisory bodies but also the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the Royal College of Midwives.

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