GET THE FACTS ON COVID-19 VACCINES

COVID-19 IS GETTING MORE CONTAGIOUS

New variants such as Delta are more contagious, spreading twice as easily or more. More contagious means more total cases, including more cases that require hospitalization, even among otherwise healthy people and children too young to receive the vaccine yet. The risk of even more dangerous mutations will only go up.

Vaccination protects you from severe illness and protects all of us by lowering the chances of the virus being able to mutate in your body and become "the next Delta."

THE VACCINES ARE SAFE

The first authorized mRNA vaccine has now been fully FDA Approved, and all of the vaccines have emergency use authorization. They have all been extensively tested and more than 70% of adults in the US have safely received at least one dose.

For full approval of a new drug, the FDA requires extensive safety and effectiveness data, inspection of manufacturing facilities, and a comprehensive review of all clinical and "real-world" use. None of the vaccines contain a live virus and they can't infect you with COVID-19 or change your DNA.

BEING UNVACCINATED MEANS MISSING OUT

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise, businesses, employers, and events will prefer or even require vaccination. There is also always the risk of a COVID-19 infection that can force you to stay away from your family, be unable to work, miss out on life events, and even end up hospitalized.

The freedom to safely participate in life is as easy as getting a vaccine.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT · Protecting and Promoting Health

Have more questions? Call the Alexandria COVID-19 Hotline at 703.746.4988 on weekdays from 9am-6pm.

alexandriava.gov/vaccines

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MORE FACTS

THE VACCINES ARE FREE & EASY TO ACCESS

The vaccine is currently available to every person 12 and up in Alexandria. Vaccines are offered daily, in multiple locations near you, with walk-in and appointment options at pop-up clinics, doctor's offices, pharmacies, and even rec centers!

THE VACCINES DON'T CAUSE LONG-TERM HEALTH PROBLEMS, BUT COVID-19 CAN

There are side effects of a severe COVID-19 infection that can be permanent such as heart conditions, breathing problems, or even brain damage.

Also, persistent and/or reoccurring symptoms (sometimes called Long COVID) can be an outcome of any COVID-19 infection, even a mild one. These Long COVID symptoms can be everything from partial or complete loss of taste/smell to months-long fatigue, and some symptoms may never go away.

THE VACCINES PROTECT YOU BETTER

Even if you think you might have already had COVID-19, you will get better protection by being fully vaccinated. A recent study in Kentucky showed that unvaccinated people who already had COVID-19 were still more than two times as likely to get COVID-19 again, compared to fully vaccinated people.

Full vaccination provides better protection from getting COVID-19 again, especially when the second infection is a different variant of the virus, like Delta.

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