



Focus: Reasons you need to get the Covid-19 vaccine

Protect yourself and your friends and family who are high risk.

As of the end of January 2021, there have been over 26,000,000 cases of Covid in the USA and more than 438,000 deaths. This is a death rate of about 1.7%. Think about this.....1 or 2 out of 100 Americans that gets Covid dies from it! In addition, if you get vaccinated, you have a 95% chance of developing immunity. This immunity not only protects you, but also will prevent you from passing the Covid virus to others. We all have friends and family who have underlying medical conditions such that they could have a bad outcome or die if they get Covid, so please protect these vulnerable folks from Covid-19. Some people ask if the vaccine prevents the newer 'mutations' of Covid-19. It appears that nearly all mutations identified to date are well prevented by the vaccine.

The vaccines are very safe.

The technology used to develop the two presently approved vaccines has been used for decades and has been shown to be very safe. Over 70,000 people participated in the Phase 3 trials, and there were no serious side effect in any of them. Since the vaccines have become available in December, more than 23,000,000 Americans have been vaccinated and the rate of severe reactions have been amazingly low, only about 2 to 5 severe reactions per 1,000,000 doses given. Compare this with the death rate of 1.7% discussed above. This data shows very clearly that we should all get vaccinated. Some ask if it safe for people with chronic medical conditions concerned the vaccine might weaken their immune system or put them at risk. For all these people (including pregnant women), it has been shown that the benefit of getting vaccinated is much better than the risks of a bad outcome from contracting Covid-19.

Don't let internet misinformation mislead you.

Don't be taken in by this. Vaccine technology have allowed us to stop smallpox, polio, tetanus, and other diseases that have killed millions of Americans in the past. If you have been waiting for more people to get vaccinated and more time to ensure your safety, consider the over 23 million Americans vaccinated and the fact that the Phase 3 trials are now more than six months old to give you further reassurance. By the time the vaccine is widely available to all over the age of 16, even more safety over a longer period of time will be proven.

Vaccination success is the best way to get herd immunity and end this pandemic.

Due to the highly infectious nature of Covid-19, it is essential that we get our communities vaccinated as quickly as possible. Many have heard the term 'herd immunity', which is the number of folks that need immunity to stop the rampant spread of Covid. Experts state that we need to get to about 80% (or more) of our community protected to stop the spread of this deadly virus. I have had my Covid-19 vaccinations. It is the time for you to get yours.