

# COVID-19 VACCINE NEWS YOU CAN USE

December 16, 2020  
Issue 4

*New Perspective*

The recent news about the COVID-19 vaccines has us excited about the future. We're looking forward to providing as much information about how this will impact our residents and team members. To keep you well informed, every couple days over the coming weeks, you can expect to receive an issue of Vaccine News You Can Use from us. We'll be sharing the latest vaccine news and updates, answering your questions, and dispelling myths and rumors about the vaccines. We'll also be sending around letters, videos, tips, and answers to frequently asked questions as we orchestrate vaccination for our residents and team members.

*Get the vaccine—our best shot at getting back to normal.*

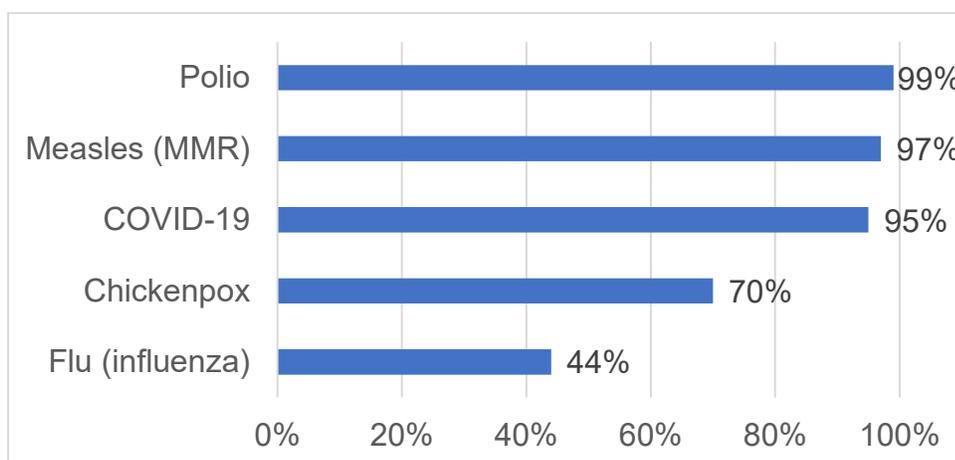
## THE HEADLINE

The COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to be highly effective in preventing COVID-19 infections.

## ANSWERING YOUR QUESTIONS

### How effective is the vaccine?

- Clinical trials of the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have proven to be about 95% effective.
- In order to receive authorization for use by the FDA, the COVID-19 vaccines were supposed to be 50% effective, so it is very inspiring that the vaccines are so much more effective. The vaccines are almost as effective as two vaccines for the most debilitating childhood diseases in history—both of which have been nearly eradicated.
- Examples of other vaccine effective rates include:



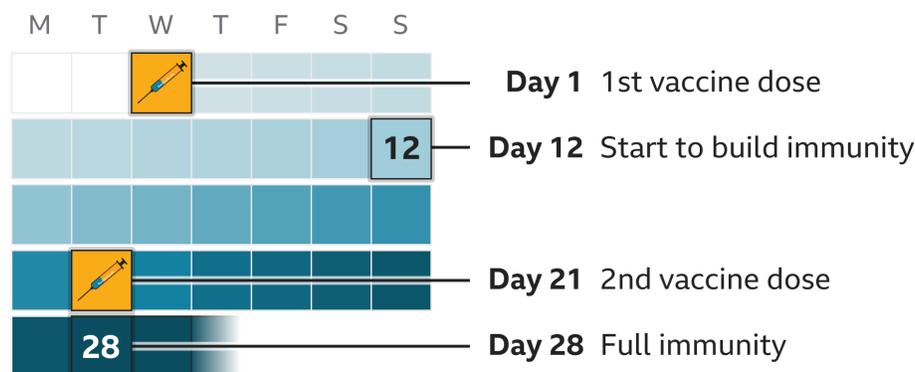
## Can I still get COVID-19 if I've been vaccinated?

- For a short period of time, maybe. It typically takes time for the body to build immunity after vaccination. That means it is possible to be infected with the virus just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

## How long before the COVID-19 vaccine takes effect after I get it?

- The vaccine is only effective after taking both rounds—the first shot and the booster no earlier than 3–4 weeks after the first vaccine is administered.
- Generally speaking, it takes a week or two for immunity to develop following the second shot. The below chart may help visualize this timeline.

## Two doses of Pfizer vaccine required for full immunity



Source: Pfizer/BioNTech

BBC

## WHAT'S IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue we send of [Vaccine News You Can Use](#) will answer the question “Who should get the COVID-19 vaccine?” by addressing:

- If everyone gets the vaccine, why do I need to get it?
- Am I better off just getting the virus versus the vaccine?
- I'm not worried about the virus. It's not that bad.
- Is getting the vaccine necessary if I'm wearing a mask and practicing social distancing?

*If you have questions about [Vaccine News You Can Use](#), please reach out to your executive director.*