

# SIDE EFFECTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

According to the NMA, there were no significant findings of serious adverse events. They recommend caution for people who have previously experienced severe allergic reactions, and advise individuals with chronic diseases to consult with their doctors.

There may be short term side effects (1-3 days) of:

- Pain and redness at the injection site
- Fatigue
- Muscle aches and pains
- Joint pain
- Headaches

These side effects can be a sign that the vaccine is working. The vaccine does not cause infertility.

Sources:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/covid-19-vaccine-development-kizzmekia-corbett/>  
<https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/saving-black-lives-during-covid-19-vaccines-matter>  
<https://www.nmanet.org/news/544970/NMA-COVID-19-Task-Force-on-Vaccines-and-Therapeutics.htm>  
<https://www.webmd.com/vaccines/covid-19-vaccine/news/20210112/why-covid-vaccines-are-falsely-linked-to-infertility>

# FINDING INFO

There is a lot of information about COVID-19 online, but a lot of it is not true. Here are some sources of accurate and up to date information:

- Noise Filter Podcast: a podcast run by local doctors explaining updates on COVID-19 with a focus on social, economic, and racial justice
- Center for Disease Control website
- NMA Statement on the vaccines

To find out if you are eligible and get vaccinated, you must contact a location and make an appointment.

You can read more here:  
<https://ldh.la.gov/covidvaccine-locations/>



Dr. MarkAlain Dery and Doc Griggs of the Noise Filter podcast. Listen at <https://www.noisefiltershow.com/>

# COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

As of 1/29/21, vaccines are available for older adults (70+), healthcare workers, and students, residents, and staff at healthcare related schools. By late spring, the vaccines should be widely available for the general public.



There are 2 vaccines available: Moderna and Pfizer, and they work the same way. The vaccine requires 2 doses which you will receive 3-4 weeks apart, and it takes full effect 7 days after the second dose. The vaccine does not contain COVID-19, and cannot give you COVID-19.

# BACKGROUND



Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett

The Moderna vaccine was developed by Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett, a Black 34 year old doctor at the National Institutes of Health. The vaccine uses mRNA which instructs cells to create spiky proteins similar in shape to the COVID-19 virus. The mRNA does not enter the nucleus where the DNA is contained, and it cannot change your DNA. Once the protein is made, the immune system creates antibodies to fight off the spiky proteins. This prepares the body to fight the COVID-19 virus when and if the virus comes in, as the antibodies will already be there prepared to fight off the infection.

**The mRNA is not the COVID-19 virus and cannot create it. The vaccine cannot give you COVID-19 or change your DNA, it just prepares your body to fight it if and when you are exposed to it.**

**THE VACCINE WILL PREVENT YOU FROM GETTING SICK WITH COVID-19. EVEN IF YOU ONLY GET ONE DOSE, IT WILL LESSEN THE IMPACT OF THE VIRUS. HOWEVER, IF YOU COME IN CONTACT WITH COVID-19, IT WILL BE BRIEFLY IN YOUR SYSTEM WHILE YOUR ANTIBODIES FROM THE VACCINE ARE ACTIVATED AND FIGHTING IT.**

**AS A RESULT, YOU SHOULD STILL WEAR A MASK AND NOT GATHER WITH PEOPLE EVEN AFTER YOU RECEIVE THE VACCINE.**



Medical practices and research have a history of harming Black communities. Because of this, the National Medical Association (abbreviated as the NMA) reviewed the clinical trials to see if the vaccine could put Black individuals at higher risk of negative outcomes. They found:

- More than 7,400 Black people were enrolled in the clinical trials of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.
- People who received the vaccine were 94% less likely to develop COVID-19 infection compared to the group without the vaccine.
- Safety and effectiveness was consistent across all people in the trials.

