

Tackling fears around vaccines and fertility: Suggested talking points

- **Research shows getting vaccinated does not affect fertility for women or men.**
 - A new [study](#) tracked data from more than 2,100 women and some of their partners in the U.S. and Canada for a year.
 - Unvaccinated and vaccinated women were equally likely to get pregnant, at 19 percent and 18 percent, respectively.
 - Unvaccinated and vaccinated men were equally likely to have partners who got pregnant, at 18 percent and 16 percent, respectively.
 - While vaccination doesn't affect fertility, there's some evidence that COVID-19 infection may have short-term impacts on men's ability to conceive: Men who tested positive within 60 days of their partner's menstrual cycle were 18 percent less likely to conceive during that cycle.
- **There is no evidence that suggests COVID-19 vaccines could impact fertility in the long-term.**
 - All allergic reactions happen within 30 minutes after vaccination, and vaccine ingredients don't linger in the body for more than a few days.
 - In the history of vaccines, side effects develop within weeks of injection. This time frame has long passed for COVID-19 vaccines and no impacts on fertility have been identified.
 - New real-world data confirms that changes in menstrual cycle after COVID-19 vaccination are [small and temporary](#), and likely a result of the temporary immune response induced by vaccinations.
- **Pregnant people are at increased risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications related to COVID-19 infection.**
 - [16 percent](#) of pregnant women with COVID-19 have been hospitalized in the U.S. and more than 260 pregnant women with COVID-19 have died.
 - Fewer than half (42 percent) of pregnant people ages 18 to 49 are [fully vaccinated](#). Only 26 percent of Black and 38 percent of Hispanic pregnant people are fully vaccinated.
 - Data shows vaccination during pregnancy does not cause increased risk of [preterm births](#) or [miscarriages](#).
 - Children under 5 are not yet able to get vaccinated, but babies could be able to receive some protection from antibodies passed through [breast milk](#).

Tackling fears around vaccines and fertility: FAQs

1. Do COVID-19 vaccines impact fertility?

A new [study](#) found that getting vaccinated does not affect fertility for women or men. Unvaccinated and vaccinated women were equally likely to get pregnant, at 19 percent and 18 percent, respectively, of the women studied. Unvaccinated and vaccinated men were also equally likely to have partners who got pregnant, at 18 percent and 16 percent, respectively. The study did show, however, that COVID-19 infection may have short-term impacts on men's ability to conceive, as men who tested positive within 60 days of their partner's menstrual cycle were 18 percent less likely to conceive during that cycle.

There is also no evidence that suggests COVID-19 vaccines could impact fertility in the long-term—a [major concern](#) among parents of kids ages 5 to 11. In the history of vaccines, any side effects develop within weeks of injection. This time frame has long passed for COVID-19 vaccines and no impacts on fertility have been identified.

2. Do COVID-19 vaccines impact menstrual cycles?

A recent [study](#) found that menstrual cycles did change following COVID-19 vaccination, but the changes were small and temporary. Specifically, periods came a day later on average but were not prolonged, and the cycles would bounce back to normal within one or two months. Such changes are not concerning and are likely a result of the temporary immune response induced by vaccinations.

3. Is it safe to get vaccinated while pregnant?

A new [study](#) of more than 46,000 pregnant women shows that COVID-19 vaccination does not increase the risk of delivering a premature baby or of having a baby born smaller than expected. Real-world data also shows that vaccination during pregnancy [does not cause](#) increased risk of miscarriage.

It is especially important for pregnant people to get vaccinated because they are at increased risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications related to COVID-19 infection. Since the pandemic began, [16 percent](#) of pregnant women with COVID-19 have been hospitalized in the U.S. and more than 260 pregnant women with COVID-19 have died. Still, fewer than half of pregnant people ages 18 to 49 are [fully vaccinated](#). Black and Hispanic pregnant people have even lower vaccination rates, at 26 and 38 percent, respectively.