COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus. There are several vaccines available and more will be rolled out during 2021.

VACCINES – Did you know?

- Vaccines introduce your immune system to components of the virus, which help your body recognize and prevent the virus from causing illness.
- All current vaccines show protection against severe disease, hospitalization and death.
- Coronavirus research isn’t new; coronaviruses have been studied for several decades.
- mRNA vaccines do not contain a live virus so they will not cause disease in the vaccinated individual.
- mRNA technology isn’t new; the science of mRNA has been studied for more than a decade.
- mRNA from the vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell and doesn’t affect or interact with an individual’s DNA.

AFTER YOU’RE VACCINATED

CONTINUE PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

- It takes two weeks after vaccination for your body to build immunity to COVID-19.
- You could still get COVID-19 before or just after vaccination, and get sick because the vaccine did not have enough time to provide protection.
- Until we know more, people who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 should continue taking precautions. Vaccination, physical distancing, use of masks, hand hygiene, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, and isolation and quarantine are essential for public health.

STILL LEARNING

- Although COVID-19 vaccines are effective against severe disease and hospitalization, scientists are still learning how effective they are at preventing spread to others.
- So far, data suggests the currently authorized vaccines are effective against variants of the virus.
- Scientists are still studying how long COVID-19 vaccines are effective.

FIND OUT MORE

FLORIDA VACCINE SITE: https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/vaccines/
VACCINE FINDER: https://vaccinefinder.org/
Email vaccine-info@usf.edu for vaccine-related questions