

Important COVID-19 Vaccination Information

Once vaccinated it is important for all individuals to continue following precautions including masking, social distancing and avoiding gatherings. Scientific evidence currently tells us that the vaccine is very effective at preventing serious illness caused by COVID-19. However, researchers continue to investigate whether vaccinated individuals are still able to spread the virus to others who have not been vaccinated. It is possible that some vaccinated people may become infected without developing symptoms and then could transmit the virus to others unknowingly, especially if they come in close contact with others or stop wearing masks. Until more is known and the cases in our community decline, we ask that people continue to wear a mask, keep social distancing, practice good hand washing, and avoid large gatherings.

Q: When can I stop wearing a mask and avoiding close contacts with others after I have been vaccinated?

A: Wearing masks, social distancing, and proper hygiene will continue to be recommended until the CDC advises otherwise. Currently, researchers are still determining what level of community immunity or amount of the population needs to be vaccinated for the CDC to stop recommending the use of masks and social distancing. Experts need to understand more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide before making that decision.

Q: Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others if I have received 2 doses of the vaccine?

A: Yes. While medical experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue using all the tools available-to help stop this pandemic, like covering your mouth and nose with a mask, washing hands often, and staying at least 6 feet away from others. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC recommendations for how to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19. Other factors, including how many people get vaccinated and how the virus is spreading in communities, will also affect this decision.

Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine.htm>



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