

The COVID-19 vaccine: five things you need to know

COVID-19 vaccines work. You can protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community by getting vaccinated. Here's more information about the COVID-19 vaccines.

1

No steps were skipped in developing these vaccines. The COVID-19 vaccines were made available quickly because they were supported by never-before-seen levels of collaboration and funding around the world. Many thousands of people around the world participated in clinical trials.

2

COVID-19 vaccines will not give you COVID-19. Unlike other vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines don't contain the virus itself. Instead, these types of vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein that will trigger an immune response and create antibodies.

3

The vaccines have been reviewed and approved by Health Canada. In order to be used in Canada, all drugs, including vaccines, must meet the regulatory requirements for safety, efficacy, and quality. Usually this review process can take a long time because new drugs and vaccines get added to the bottom of the list, and must wait their turn for review. However, these vaccines are so important they went right to the front of the line, allowing the process to be much quicker than usual.

4

The best vaccine is the first vaccine you can get. You may have heard that different vaccines provide different immunity levels. All authorized vaccines are effective at preventing COVID-19. What's most important is that you get your vaccine as soon as it's available.

5

When a large percentage of the population becomes immune to COVID-19, the spread of the virus will slow down or stop. You can protect yourself, your loved ones and your community by getting the COVID-19 vaccine.