

# COVID-19 Message

## COVID-19 Vaccines: Myths + Facts

Government through the Ministry of Health and Child Care has started rolling out COVID-19 vaccines as an additional layer of protection against COVID-19 infection. Here are some facts for common myths that are circulating.

(sources – MoHCC& CDC)

**MYTH:** Vaccines are unsafe and normal safety protocols have been circumvented to fast track their authorisation for use

**FACT:** No step in the development, testing or ratification of the COVID-19 vaccines has been skipped. The world was able to develop vaccines fast because scientists and governments around the world collaborated in a manner that has never been achieved before.

**MYTH:** The vaccine will change my DNA

**FACT:** Vaccines work by stimulating the body the same way the virus would if someone was infected. That means when you receive the vaccine the body then recognises that it looks like the coronavirus and then it releases certain chemicals that start a chain reaction to make immune cells that can fight the real virus. The vaccine does not work on the DNA of the body.

**MYTH:** COVID 19 vaccines give you the virus

**FACT:** COVID 19 vaccines do not give you the virus. The vaccine does not contain a live virus strain

**MYTH:** You do not have to wear a mask or practice social distancing once you are vaccinated

**FACT:** The vaccine helps to prevent you from getting sick with COVID 19, but it is currently not known if it prevents you from transmitting the virus to others. Stopping the pandemic requires using all the tools available like wearing a mask, washing your hands and social distancing

Quotable quote from one of our CTU colleagues.....



*I got the COVID-19 vaccine. There is nothing to be afraid of because the vaccine has been tested and approved.*

Staff XX

**MYTH:** The vaccine will make you sick with COVID-19

**FACT:** None of the authorised COVID-19 vaccines contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

**ADDITIONAL FACT:** People who have gotten sick with COVID-19 in the past may still benefit from getting vaccinated.

**MYTH:** I will test positive for COVID 19 after receiving the vaccine

**FACT:** COVID 19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive for COVID 19

**MYTH:** The vaccine is not safe if you would like to have a baby one day

**FACT:** There is currently no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination causes any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. There is also no evidence that fertility problems are a side effect of any vaccine, including COVID-19 vaccines.

### Got COVID-19 related questions?

- Talk to the CTU IPC designee at your CRS / dept.
- Email CTU IPC taskforce on: [ipc@uz-ctrc.org](mailto:ipc@uz-ctrc.org)
- City Council COVID-19 Rapid Response Teams:
- Chitungwiza – 0773733504/ 0772784967 / 0712843581 Harare – 0772974314
- MoHCC: Tollfree number: 2019 / 2023

WhatsApp- Send Hi to +263 714734593

### Want to get involved?

Send your comments / suggestions for future broadcasts to [skokera@uz-ctrc.org](mailto:skokera@uz-ctrc.org)

