



# W.I.N.K Pfizer/BioNtech COVID-19 Vaccine

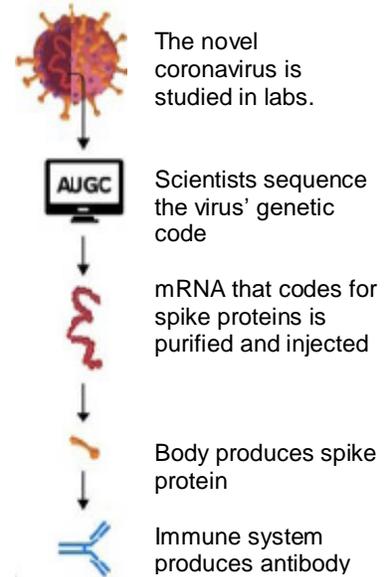
Pfizer/BioNtech received FDA EUA (Emergency Use Authorization) intended to prevent COVID-19 caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The vaccine does not contain live SARS-CoV-2 virus and cannot cause COVID-19. The mRNA delivered in the vaccine does not enter the vaccine recipients' human cell nucleus, meaning that it cannot alter the person's DNA. Once the mRNA is inside the human immune cells, the cells use it to make proteins which help the recipient produce antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 virus. After the proteins are made, the cell breaks down the mRNA.

Based on the totality of scientific evidence available, it is reasonable to believe that this vaccine may be effective in preventing COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age or older.

The public's knowledge and confidence in their safety, both initially and during extended use, is an important part of a successful national vaccination effort. As such, monitoring vaccine safety is a vital part of the nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The current process for receiving the vaccine is voluntary and will be prioritized as recommended by the CDC's ACIP.

## HOW mRNA VACCINES WORK



## ADMINISTRATION

- 2-dose series administered intramuscularly:
  - The day of the first dose is considered day 1
  - The second dose should be given three weeks after the first dose (i.e., day 21). According to CDC the second dose can be given +/- 4 days (i.e., between day 17 and day 25). BHSF will be scheduling appointments within 2 days of day 21 (i.e., between day 19 and day 23) with the flexibility to extend to 4 days if demand requires.
    - CDC assures us that a second dose delayed longer than 4 days is unlikely to impact vaccine efficacy
- Both doses are necessary for protection; efficacy of a single dose has not been systematically evaluated

## WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER COVID-19 VACCINATION?

Most side effects from the vaccine are:

- Mild to moderate in severity
- Occur within the first 3 days of vaccination
- Resolve within 1-2 days of onset

Potential systemic side effects following the vaccination can include fever, fatigue, headache, chills myalgia (muscle pain), and arthralgia (joint pain). However, cough, shortness of breath, rhinorrhea (runny nose), sore throat, or loss of taste or smell are not consistent with post-vaccination symptoms and you should notify Occupational Health and your leader.

## PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VACCINATED PERSONS

- The vaccine does not provide immediate protection and the 2-dose series will take 1 to 2 weeks following the second dose to reach full protection
- No vaccine is 100% effective and being vaccinated does not necessarily mean a person cannot become infected or infect other people
- Vaccinated persons must continue to follow all current guidance to protect themselves and others, including:
  - Wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds, washing hands often, following CDC travel guidance, following quarantine guidance after an exposure to someone with COVID-19, following any applicable workplace or school guidance



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## WE ENCOURAGE EVERY EMPLOYEE RECEIVING THE VACCINE TO ENROLL ON V-SAFE.

V-safe conducts electronic health check-ins with vaccine recipients – daily for first week post vaccination, weekly thereafter for 6 weeks post-vaccination – additional health checks at 3, 6, and 12 months post-vaccinations – timeline resets at 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.