



in partnership with MU Extension

MYTH:

You may have heard that vaccines can cause you to become magnetic

FACT:

COVID vaccines:

- Do not contain any ingredients that would produce an electromagnetic field contain metals (eg iron, cobalt, nickel, mercury, lithium, etc)
- Do not have a high enough dose to attract magnets to your vaccination site (*even if it were possible*). The dose is only a half of a milliliter.

Printed September 2021 | Reference: CDC 2021

TIPS FOR COVID CONVERSATIONS

- Statements about vaccine concerns may sound factual (*Spoken: "I hear that vaccines cause autism."*) when they are really emotional (*Unspoken: "I love my kids and I'm scared by the things that might hurt them."*).
- Affirm emotions before addressing the facts.

Listen: Ask about specific concerns. *"Can you tell me what you've heard that troubles you?"*

Affirm: Validate their emotions. *"Yes, I've heard that, too. That is very scary, and I can see how much you love your child."*

Reflect: Check to make sure you heard things correctly. *"What I hear you saying is..."*

Share: Present both the facts and your own stories now that you have shown respect and established trust. *"May I share a few things with you?"*



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MYTH:

**You may have heard that
the trials were rushed
and there is not
enough safety data**

FACT:

- All four clinical trial phases were completed before emergency use authorization. No steps were skipped.
- COVID vaccines are undergoing the most intensive safety monitoring for any vaccine in history.
- Millions of people have been vaccinated against COVID safely and are now protected from a severe disease.
- Nearly all negative effects from vaccines happen immediately or at the latest, within 30 days.
- Long-term negative effects are highly unlikely. Vaccines do their job (generate an antibody response) and then they are done. No ingredients linger in the body.
- Vaccines are evaluated by independent safety monitoring boards and committees of doctors and epidemiologists. These people do not benefit financially from a vaccine getting approved or licensed.

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MYTH:

**You may have heard that
the vaccine causes
infertility**

FACT:

- There is no evidence that any COVID vaccine causes infertility.
- There was an early claim that COVID vaccines contain Syncytin-1 which is vital to the formulation of placenta in women. No COVID vaccine contains Syncytin-1.
- There is some evidence that being sick with *COVID disease* affects sperm production in men by causing inflammation and micro clotting in men's testicles. This could affect fertility for some couples.

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MYTH:

**You may have heard
that it's more dangerous
to get the vaccine than
not vaccinating**

FACT:

- Some people think their risk for COVID disease or severe disease is very low and the vaccine is risky.
- COVID disease has killed over 600,000 people in the US. The vaccine is safe with little to no fatalities.
- Vaccinating not only protects you but everyone around you.
- Vaccines work against variants. The more people vaccinated the less disease spread and the less risk for the virus to mutate into new variants.
- Nearly all COVID hospitalizations and deaths are unvaccinated patients

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MYTH:

**You may have heard
that the vaccine contains
a microchip that tracks
movement**

FACT:

- There is no microchip in the vaccine. Vaccines come in multidose vials so inserting a microchip in each and every syringe would be impossible.
- You may hear a click when you are vaccinated. This has nothing to do with microchips. That is a feature of modern syringes that protects health care providers from needle sticks. The sound you hear is the needle snapping back into the syringe where it can't poke anyone by accident.

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MYTH:
You may have heard
the vaccine is not
safe for children

FACT:

- COVID vaccination can safely help protect your child from getting COVID.
- Children can become very sick with COVID.
- Some children experience a multisystem inflammatory syndrome from COVID disease which can be deadly.
- Children can spread the virus that causes COVID to others. Getting your child vaccinated helps to protect your child, your family, and people around you.
- COVID vaccination is now recommended for everyone 12 years and older.

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MYTH:

**You may have heard
the vaccine is not
safe to take during
pregnancy**

FACT:

- COVID vaccines have been deemed safe for pregnant and lactating women by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist.
- In fact, COVID vaccines are strongly encouraged. There have been some tragic cases of COVID disease in pregnant women.
- COVID vaccines do not harm the fetus, and in fact may protect babies from COVID disease after they are born.
- Thousands of pregnant women have been safely vaccinated against COVID.

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