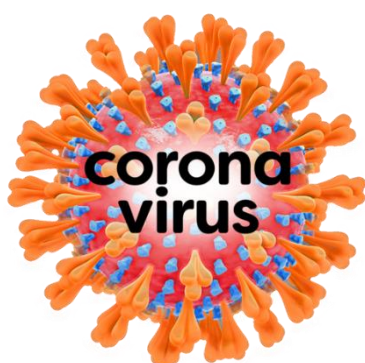


This information is about the coronavirus (Covid-19) vaccine.



Coronavirus is a type of illness that makes people feel poorly.

Coronavirus is also known as Covid-19.

People who have coronavirus may:

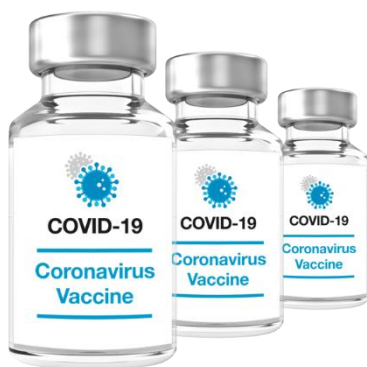
- Have a sore throat
- Have a high temperature
- Have a cough
- Have a loss of smell or taste
- Find it more difficult to breathe than normal



To stop people getting coronavirus people called scientists have made a **vaccine**.



A scientist is a person who tries to understand how our world and other things work.



What is a vaccine?

A vaccine is medicine that helps your body to fight an infection in the future.



A vaccine works by teaching your body's **immune system** how to fight the infection.

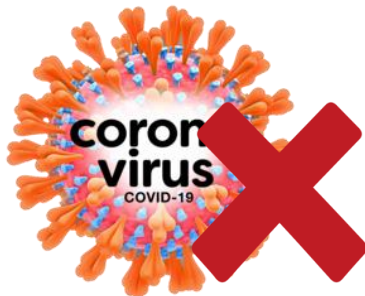


Your **immune system** is how your body fights off infections, like a cold or the flu.



Your immune system learns how to fight the coronavirus infection without you getting poorly.

If you catch coronavirus in the future, the vaccine should stop you from becoming very unwell.



The vaccine does not give you coronavirus.



Doctors and scientists say that the vaccines are safe to use.



Doctors and scientists think that if people have the vaccine, less people will get ill from coronavirus.



Who will get the vaccine?

Elderly people are at risk of being really ill if they get coronavirus.

The people who will be offered the vaccine first are:



People who live in care homes for elderly people



Staff that work in care homes for elderly people



Everyone who is over 80 years old



Staff that support people will also be asked if they would like to have the vaccine.



There are other groups of people who will be asked if they would like the vaccine.



It will take some time for all of the groups of people to be asked if they want the vaccine.

How will I know about the vaccine?



If you are in one of the groups of people who are being offered the vaccine, you will be contacted when it is your turn.



This might be by letter, email or on the phone.

You won't have to pay to have the vaccine. It is free.



You will be asked if you want to have the vaccine. The vaccine will make it less likely that you will get ill from Coronavirus.



If you are not sure about having the vaccine, people can support you to get more information.



This could be people you trust, family, friends or staff that support you.



They can help you to understand how the vaccine works and listen to any worries you might have.



You can say “**No**” if you do not want the vaccine.

It is your choice.



If you want the vaccine you will have an injection.



A doctor or a nurse will give you the injection. This could be at a hospital, your doctors, or at a clinic.

You will have 2 injections.

When you have had the vaccine this will be your first injection.



You will have another injection at a later date (up to 12 weeks after your first injection).



After you have the injection, you will be asked to wait for up to 15 minutes. This is so the doctors can make sure you're okay and well enough to go home.



Some people might have sore muscles or a high temperature (feel hot) after the injection.

This is because the vaccine is new to your body.



If you don't feel well when you are back at home, you can ring your doctor or nurse to check you are ok.



If you want to know more about the vaccine you can talk to your doctor or nurse.



You should still wear a face covering
and use social distancing when you
have had the vaccine.

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