



## Church of the Resurrection Health & Wellness Committee

### COVID-19 VACCINE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

#### Q. When will I be able to get the vaccine?

**A:** You may not know for several months. Experts are optimistic that by the end of March or April most people in high risk groups will be vaccinated, and by June the general public will begin to get it. But there are several challenges ahead. First is supply. Pfizer has enough vaccine to inoculate 50 million Americans with each person getting two doses 21 days apart. Moderna has also contracted with the US government for 200 million doses which would vaccinate 100 million people getting two shots 28 days apart. There are also other vaccines coming. At the outset, there are enough doses to vaccinate a little more than half of US adults.

Vaccinating the population will happen in phases in CT:

**Phase 1A:** Limited doses available. That's where we are now. Highest-risk people such as health care workers and nursing home staff and residents are getting the vaccine currently. **Phase 1B:** People who are 75 yrs and up are being scheduled now. Next is scheduling for those 65-74 yrs. After that, front line essential workers and those with underlying medical conditions with increased risk for severe illness will be scheduled. When these vaccinations are well underway, **Phase 1C** will be allowed to schedule. Information regarding who will be included in Phase 1C will be coming soon.

#### Q. Should I be hesitant to get a vaccine that was created so quickly?

**A: No.** Over 73,000 people participated in the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine clinical trials, and neither showed any serious safety concerns.

#### Q. What works to keep us safe?

- 1. Face masks.** The more snug the fit and the more layers the better. Reusable masks should be washed regularly.
- 2. Hand sanitizers.** They work and work well. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends using one that's at least 60 percent alcohol.
- 3. Vitamin D.** This is the one vitamin worth supplementing for a simple reason: most of us don't get enough from natural sources. Vitamin D deficiency is linked to higher risk of acute upper respiratory and is a common trait among COVID-19 patients.

#### Q. Can I get COVID-19 from receiving the vaccine?

**A: No.** This vaccine does not contain live or dead virus, so it cannot infect you with COVID-19.

**Q. Should I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

**A:** It is generally recommended, but if you have any questions you should discuss this with your primary care provider.

**Q: Will I need an appointment to receive the vaccine?**

**A: Yes,** vaccination is by appointment only. Online access to schedule a vaccine: [ctgov/covidvaccine](https://ct.gov/covidvaccine).

**Or** CT COVID Vaccine Appointment Assist Line: 877-918-2224. The line will take calls Mondays-Fridays from 8am to 4:30pm and will offer a call back option when all contact specialists are busy serving other callers.

**Or** if your healthcare provider is administering the vaccine (not all of them are) they will call you to set up an appointment when you are eligible.

**Q. I have had COVID-19, should I still get the vaccine?**

**A. Yes,** this is currently recommended.

**Q. What should I do if I experience adverse effects after receiving the vaccine?**

**A:** You will be monitored for 15-30 minutes immediately after receiving your vaccine. If you experience side effects after that, call your healthcare provider to advise you.