

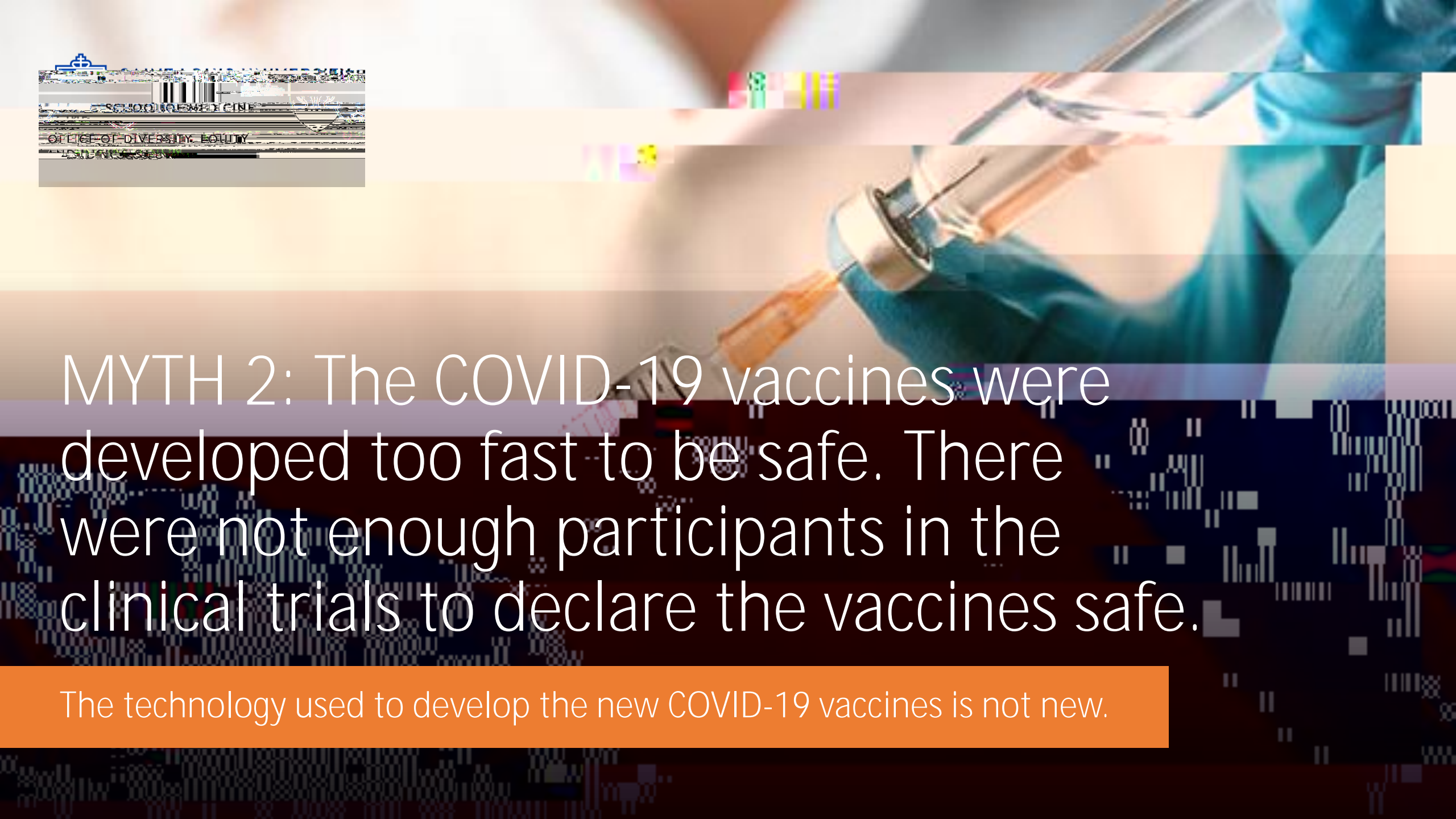


Women in Medicine and Science:
Tackling COVID-19 Vaccine Myths



MYTH 1: You can delay routine vaccinations until the pandemic is over.



A person in a blue lab coat and gloves is shown in the background, holding a syringe and a vial. The person is looking down at the syringe. The background is a blurred laboratory setting with various pieces of equipment and a person in a white lab coat. The overall color palette is dominated by blue and white tones.

MYTH 2: The COVID-19 vaccines were developed too fast to be safe. There were not enough participants in the clinical trials to declare the vaccines safe.

The technology used to develop the new COVID-19 vaccines is not new.



MYTH 3: I already had COVID-19, so I do not need the vaccine.

It's not clear how long a natural infection with COVID-19 provides immunity from the disease. There are reports of individuals becoming reinfected with the virus.



MYTH 4: COVID-19 vaccines were developed to deliver a microchip into my body. The vaccine will alter my DNA.

The vaccine does not contain a microchip. Messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines work in the cell's cytoplasm and never enter the cell nucleus, where the DNA, your genetic material, lives.



MYTH 5: I will not need to wear a mask after I am vaccinated.

The COVID-19 vaccines protect you from getting seriously ill from COVID-19. But it's not known if the vaccine will keep you from being infected then transmitting the virus to others.

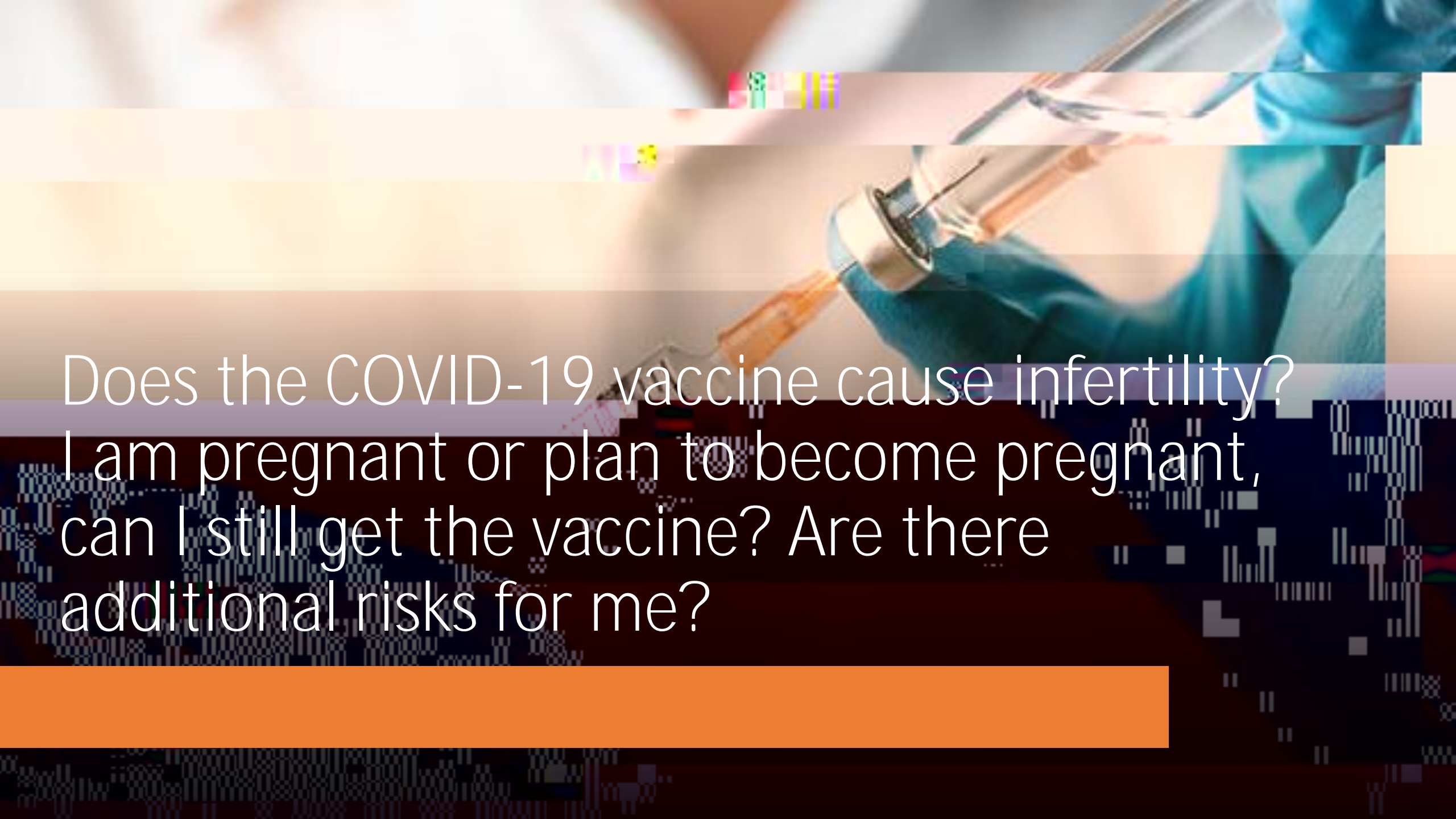


What are the ingredients in the COVID-19 vaccine? Do the COVID-19 vaccines contain aborted fetal tissue?

The active ingredient in both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines is mRNA. The mRNA tells your cells how to make a protein from the coronavirus. Once your body knows how to make the protein, it can recognize COVID-19 and fight it off. The vaccines also contain lipids (fats), various salts, sucrose, and other stabilizing ingredients to help your body use the mRNA. No, the COVID-19 vaccines do not contain any aborted fetal cells. However, Pfizer and Moderna did perform confirmation .



What are the side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine? Is there a risk of severe allergic



Does the COVID-19 vaccine cause infertility?
I am pregnant or plan to become pregnant,
can I still get the vaccine? Are there
additional risks for me?



Where can I find the best source of information regarding pregnancy and COVID-19 vaccine? 125.5 Tm1 g1 90BC @



What is the difference between Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines?

Pfizer and Moderna uses mRNA technology. Johnson & Johnson utilizes a viral vector technology.



Can you get Covid-19 once you get the vaccine? Can you transmit Covid-19 to someone else after getting the vaccine?

It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity (protection against the virus that causes COVID-19) after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. We don't yet know whether getting a COVID-19 vaccine will prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to other people, even if you don't get sick yourself. CDC will continue to update as we learn more.



How can people trust the vaccine in underprivileged communities with the history of being mistreated and tested on in the past?

The choice to be vaccinated for COVID-19 is a personal one. It's vital to have a relationship with your primary care physician and to ask questions and raise concerns until you have answers that allow you to make a good decision for yourself.



Why is diversity so important in clinical trials?

When people have different genetic and biologic makeup, their bodies can produce antibodies differently. This means to ensure a vaccine will protect people of all ethnic groups, we need to make sure everyone is fully represented in clinical trials




How has COVID-19 impacted women?

Unemployment data in the U.S. indicate that women make up 54 percent of the overall job losses to date. Mothers continue to shoulder the majority of family caregiving responsibilities and are faced with lack of childcare infrastructure and online schooling.



What barriers have you encountered as a woman in medicine and research?

Sexism, racism, and microaggression.

A background image showing a person in a lab coat and blue gloves using a pipette to transfer liquid into a vial. The scene is brightly lit, and the person's face is partially visible in the upper right corner.


What advice would you give a young female doctor just starting out in her career?

Role of advocacy and negotiation.



What communication skills do you use to increase rapport with patients and inform them about the COVID-19 vaccine?

Building trust and longitudinal relationships.



Which lasts longer, immunity after getting COVID-19 or protection from COVID-19 vaccines?

We don't know how long natural immunity might last. Current evidence suggests that getting the virus again (reinfection) is uncommon in the 90 days after the first infection with the virus that causes COVID-19. We won't know how long immunity lasts after vaccination until we have more data on how well COVID-19 vaccines work in real-



Where can I get a vaccine and when?

Visit covidvaccine.mo.gov to find out when you are eligible to receive the vaccine and locations offering vaccinations. In the St. Louis area, selected health care systems include BJC Healthcare, SSM Health, Mercy St. Louis, St. Luke's Hospital and the St. Louis County Health Department.

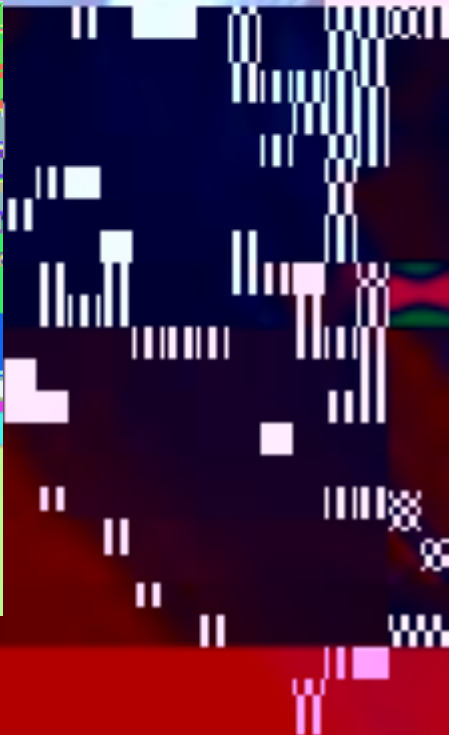
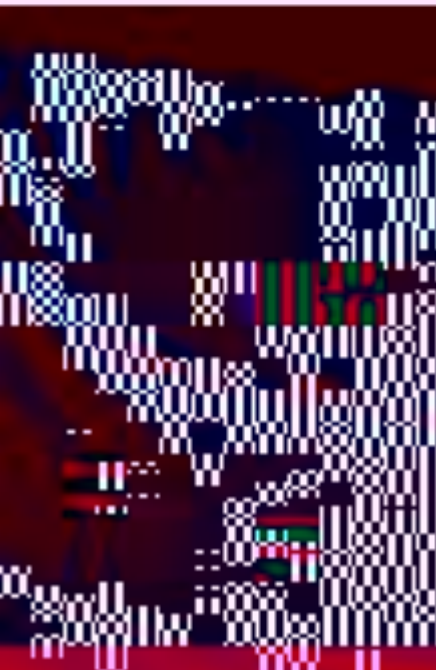


WHEN CAN I GET VACCINATED?

The state of Missouri is currently working to vaccinate residents that are eligible under our phased approach.

COVID-19 Vaccine Availability







So, now what?

If you've been fully vaccinated:

You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask.

If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.

However, if you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.

[CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)



1000

1000

1000

1000



A recording of this webinar will be available on the News and Events page of our website.

Questions: ODEI@health.slu.edu

