

Viral Vector COVID-19 Vaccines: Myth vs. Fact

Several myths are floating around regarding the viral vector Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine. See the facts below.

VACCINE MYTH

VACCINE FACT



MYTH: *Viral vector COVID-19 vaccines give you COVID-19.*

FACT: The viral vector COVID-19 Vaccine does not contain the live coronavirus and cannot give you COVID-19.

None of the COVID-19 vaccines approved for use in the United States (U.S.) use the live virus that causes COVID-19. The goal of these vaccines is to teach the immune system how to recognize and fight the COVID-19 virus.



MYTH: *There must be one vaccine that is better than the others.*

FACT: Having more than one safe, effective vaccine is needed to increase vaccination efforts.

The benefit of having multiple COVID-19 vaccines is more doses are readily available to reach everyone faster than the virus can spread. Different vaccines could also work better for different groups of people. Having these options gives us access to better technology to help prevent another pandemic in the future.



MYTH: *Viral vector vaccines developed with aborted fetal cells are never acceptable.*

FACT: It can be morally acceptable.

The Vatican and U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops consider it “morally acceptable to receive a vaccine that uses abortion-derived cell lines...” in efforts to not only “protect one’s own health, but also on the duty to pursue the common good.” Essentially, any available, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) approved vaccine is an appropriate vaccine.



MYTH: *Viral vector vaccine technology is brand new and not worth the risk.*

FACT: Scientists began creating viral vectors in the 1970s and since have been studied rigorously for safety.

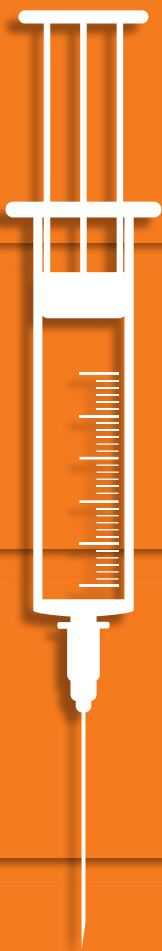
For decades, hundreds of scientific studies of viral vector vaccines have been conducted and published worldwide. This includes studies based on viral vector vaccines against infectious diseases, such as Zika, flu, Ebola, and HIV. The viral vector vaccine for COVID-19 is safe and held to the same standards as all other vaccines in the U.S.



MYTH: *Receiving a viral vector vaccine will alter your DNA.*

FACT: Receiving a viral vector COVID-19 vaccine will not alter your DNA.

The current viral vector COVID-19 vaccine was developed using coronavirus genes. Viral vectors carrying the coronavirus genes allow the immune system to recognize and fight the virus. It is not biologically possible for genes from COVID-19 vaccines to alter or change a person’s DNA.



For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit:

coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine

