Concern: "I am nervous I will get COVID-19 from the vaccine."





Facts

The COVID-19 vaccines do not contain the SARS-CoV-2 virus which causes COVID-19.



COVID-19 vaccines teach your immune system how to recognize and fight SARS-CoV-2 if you are exposed to it.



The body may respond to the vaccine as it is working to build protection. This process may cause normal immune system responses like fever, body aches, nausea, and tiredness.

Concern: "If everyone around me is immune, I don't need to be vaccinated."





Facts

Most vaccines prevent diseases spread from person to person. These types of diseases can be easily spread through communities. It is hard to know whether everyone around you is vaccinated or immune. It is better to protect yourself than to rely on others to protect you.



It's important to have as many as people as possible vaccinated to prevent the spread of diseases.



It isn't just about protecting yourself, it's about protecting your family, friends and community too.

Concern: "Shingles isn't that serious."



Virginia Cooperative Extension Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

Facts

 ${\mathcal Y}$ Shingles is a painful rash that develops on one side of the face or body.



The rash causes blisters and deep pain. After the rash is gone, burning, stabbing and throbbing pain can reappear for months and even years.



Shingles has been associated with pneumonia, brain swelling, meningitis, hearing problems and death.

Scan here for more information on shingles.



Concern: "Vaccines cause autism."





Facts



The fear that vaccines cause autism was started from a 1997 study published by a British doctor. The article suggested that the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine was increasing autism in children.



The study has since been proven untrue due to serious errors. The doctor lost his medical license and the paper has been removed.



More research has taken place since and none of the studies have found a link between <u>any</u> vaccine and the likelihood of developing autism.

Scan here for more information on vaccines and autism.



Concern: "We don't need to vaccinate because infection rates are already so low in the United States."



Virginia Cooperative Extension Tech · Virginia State University

Facts

Infection rates are low because of vaccination. When most people are vaccinated or have had the disease, we have herd immunity. Herd immunity protects even those who are not vaccinated because so few people have the disease can infect others.



If too many people don't get vaccinated, more people get the disease because the virus and bacteria are able to spread from person to person in the community.



Vaccines have prevented many deaths and illnesses and continue to protect us from harmful diseases.

Scan here for more information on herd immunity.



Concern: "Natural immunity is better than vaccine-acquired immunity."





Facts



Natural immunity means actually catching a disease and getting sick.



Getting the disease sometimes results in stronger immunity, but not always. This approach is also dangerous because some people get really sick and have severe complications.

Concern: "Vaccines contain unsafe toxins."



Virginia Cooperative Extension Virginia Tech • Virginia State University Facts

It is true that vaccines contain very small amounts of chemicals like formaldehyde or aluminum to keep them fresh and effective. The very small amounts are not at levels that are harmful or toxic in the human body. That is why they are approved by the FDA.



In fact, formaldehyde is produced at higher rates by our own body and there is no evidence that the low levels of this chemical, mercury or aluminum in vaccines can be harmful.

Scan here for more information on vaccine ingredients.



Concern: "I had the vaccine and still got the flu, so it doesn't work."





Facts





If people are exposed to a different version of the flu, they may get the flu even if they got the vaccine.



Some people still get the flu even if they are exposed to the same version that the vaccine is for. Even if you still get the flu after you get the vaccine, your symptoms will probably be milder than if you did not get the vaccine.

Scan here for more information on Flu vaccinations.



Concern: "The Tdap vaccine's immunity lasts forever. I do not need a booster."





Facts

Protection from the Tdap vaccine decreases over time

Getting a Tdap booster every 10 years increases your level of protection against the disease.



🕢 lf you do not get your boosters, you may b<u>e</u> at risk for whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria.



Scan here for more information on vaccine boosters.



Show your love. Get vaccinated.



Virginia Cooperative Extension Virginia Tech • Virginia State University Vaccines work to protect you and those around you from getting severely ill, being hospitalized or dying from diseases.



Vaccines keep you and your loved ones healthy.

Talk to your local vaccine provider if you have any concerns or questions about vaccinations.

Scan here to find a local vaccination provider.

