



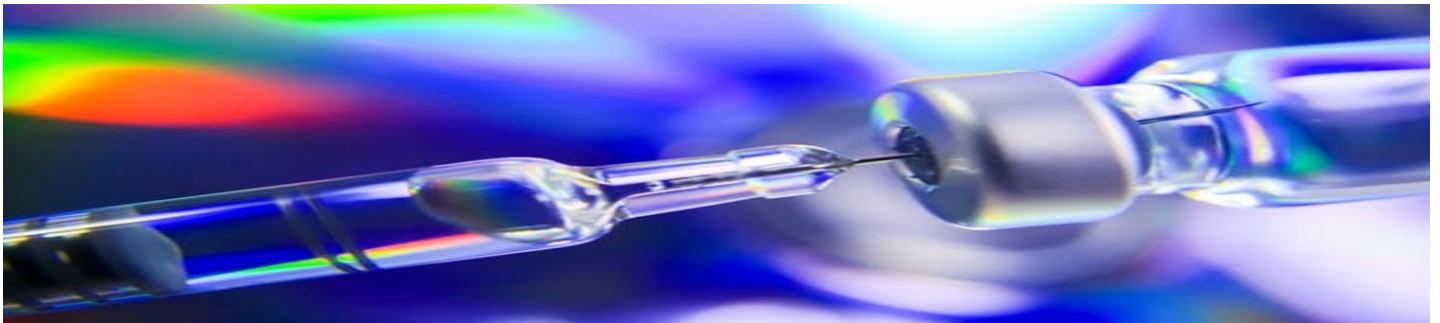
COALITION OF GERIATRIC  
NURSING ORGANIZATIONS

*Caring with One Voice*

# COVID-19 Vaccine

## Why Should I Receive A Vaccine?

- It prevents you from developing serious COVID-19 disease.
- It helps to get our country back to normal as soon as possible.



## Is It Safe?

- Yes. Two advisory committees reviewed all safety information and recommended the vaccines be approved by the FDA. The advisory committees are scientists and are not government employees or politicians.
- Everyone who received the vaccine in the study was monitored for 8 weeks for any side effects although the FDA normally only requires 6 weeks of monitoring.
- Many different ethnic groups were included in the studies.



## Pfizer Study

- 43,931 Participants
- Minority Participants
  - \* 10% African American
  - \* 13% Hispanic
  - \* 6% Asian
- Only 1 severe reaction
- 2 doses 21 days apart
- mRNA Vaccine

## Moderna Study

- 30,000 Participants
- Minority Participants
  - \* 10.2% African American
  - \* 20% Hispanic
  - \* 4.6% Asian
- Only 1 severe reaction
- 2 doses 28 days apart
- mRNA Vaccine



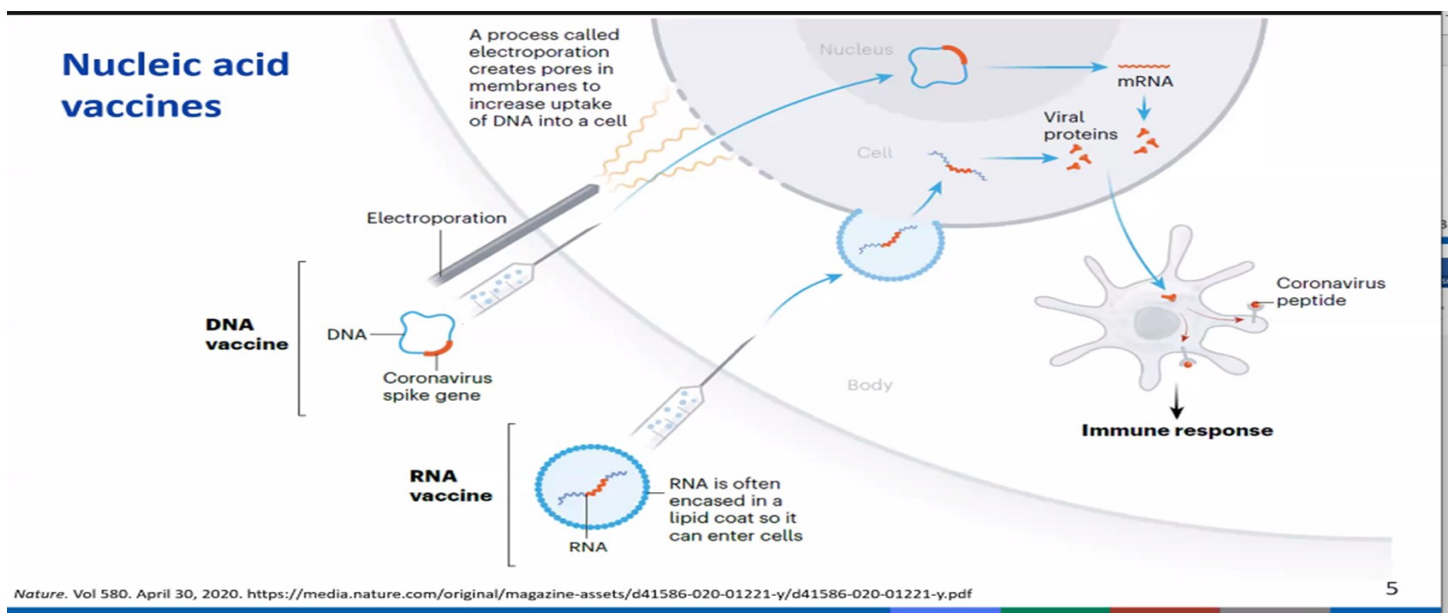
## Johnson & Johnson Study

- 43,783 Participants
- Minority Participants
  - \* 13% African American
  - \* 15% Hispanic
  - \* 6% Asian
  - \* 1% Native American
- No reports of severe reaction found
- Single dose
- Viral Vector Vaccine



# How Does Messenger RNA (mRNA) Work?

- Teaches the body to protect itself from the COVID-19 virus.
- Messenger RNA technology is used to build the antibodies against the virus.
- Messenger RNA is used in the Moderna & Pfizer vaccines.
- This technology has already been used in some medications used to treat cancer.
- Ebola vaccine uses similar technology.



# How Did Vaccines Get Approved So Quickly?

- The federal government gave drug companies billions of dollars to devote their time to develop COVID-19 vaccines. This allowed companies to pay more scientists to work on the project.
- The messenger RNA technology allows for faster development of vaccines than older vaccines that took years to develop.

# What Should I Expect After Getting The Vaccine?

- You may have short-term side effects that are similar to the flu vaccine:
  - \* Headache
  - \* Pain at injection site
  - \* Tiredness
  - \* Muscle Pain
  - \* Fever
- These are signs that your body's immune system is working to build the antibodies against COVID-19.



## How Long Does It Take To Work?

- The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines show increased effectiveness if you take a 2nd shot 3-4 weeks after the first one.
  - \* You will receive maximum benefit about 2 weeks after receiving the 2nd shot.
- The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a single dose vaccine.
  - \* You will receive maximum benefit about 2 weeks after receiving the shot.

## **I Had COVID Do I Still Need The Vaccine?**

- Yes, some people have been sick with COVID-19 more than once so everyone should receive the vaccine.

## **Can I Get COVID From The Vaccine?**

- No, the vaccine does not contain a live virus so it will not give you COVID-19.



## **Serious Long Term Effects Of Vaccine**

- Researchers continue to monitor for serious long term effects.
- So far no serious long term effects have been reported with Moderna & Pfizer vaccines.
- The J&J vaccine was put on pause for 10 days due to reports of possible blood clots associated with the vaccine. On 04/23/21 the FDA and CDC authorized continued use of the vaccine after thorough investigation of all safety data.

# Possible Long Term Effects Of COVID-19 Virus

- Difficulty with thinking and concentration
- Altered smell and taste
- Problems sleeping
- Depression
- Anxiety
- Mood changes
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Intermittent fever
- Fast-beating or pounding heart
- Breathing problems
- Skin rash
- Hair loss
- Acute kidney injury
- Pulmonary changes

**The Significant Long Term Effects Of COVID-19  
Virus Are Still Unknown**

**But The Risk Of Death When Having The Virus  
Is High.**

**Which Is Worth The Risk?**

**Getting the **Virus** or The **Vaccine****

**Your Decision To Decide**

**This publication contains information  
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## **COALITION OF GERIATRIC NURSING ORGANIZATIONS**

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