

10 TRUTHS ABOUT Women and COVID-19 Vaccines

Myth: Pregnant women should wait until after delivery to get vaccinated.

Truth: **Pregnant women should get vaccinated as soon as possible to protect themselves and the health of their babies.** If infected with COVID-19, pregnant women are more likely to have a severe case of COVID-19 and their babies are at increased risk for preterm birth.

Myth: Most vaccines are not safe for breastfeeding women.

Truth: **Most vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, are safe for breastfeeding women.** Breastfeeding women routinely receive nearly all other vaccines.

Myth: There is no study information about the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnancy.

Truth: **While pregnant women were excluded from initial vaccine clinical trials, there is now substantial and reassuring study information that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe in pregnancy.** Over 23,000 women are enrolled in a CDC-FDA birth registry that is reporting no abnormal adverse events in pregnant individuals.

Myth: COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility.

Truth: **There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines affect fertility in women or men.**

Myth: COVID-19 vaccines cause changes in menstruation and menopause.

Truth: **Many factors can affect menstruation, like stress, sleep, changes in weight, infections, and many diseases.** There is no current evidence that vaccines directly cause menstrual irregularities or early menopause.

Myth: During pregnancy, infants cannot gain antibodies from their mothers.

Truth: **There is evidence from several studies that antibodies can be passed from mother to baby across the placenta, so the child is born with antibodies.** There is evidence that breastfeeding can confer antibodies to the infant.

Myth: Women must receive COVID-19 vaccination in a certain trimester.

Truth: **The CDC recommends all women get vaccinated as soon as possible to combat the threat of ongoing COVID-19 transmission in the US.**

Myth: There is no system to monitor pregnant women for side effects after receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.

Truth: **V-Safe data shows short-term side effects such as fever, redness at injection site, and fatigue are similar in pregnant and non-pregnant women.**

Myth: Pregnant women need a note from their healthcare provider before being able to receive a vaccine.

Truth: **All women, regardless of pregnancy status, are receiving vaccinations in the same way.** Women do not need a note from their obstetrician certifying they can get a COVID vaccine.

Myth: Vaccination is linked to a heightened risk of miscarriages.

Truth: **The CDC's V-Safe app is currently monitoring vaccinated women for miscarriage side effects.** There appears to be no increased risk of miscarriage after vaccination.

For more information, visit:

- dph.georgia.gov/covid-vaccine
- cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/pregnancy.html