Vaccine Journey

Vaccines offer our bodies instructions on how to fight COVID-19 in case we are exposed to the virus. Vaccines are developed, tested and distributed with very strict rules to ensure they are both safe and effective.

**Research & Development**

- Scientists study and learn about the virus to develop a vaccine that prevents us from getting sick.
- Potential vaccines are tested and studied in a lab for effectiveness and potential side effects.
- The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) reviews research data for safety and accuracy before new vaccines are tested with humans.

**Clinical Trial Process**

- Throughout the process, researchers from the private sector and government check the data and enforce all safety standards.

**Phase I:**

Focused on safety, a small group of 20-100 healthy volunteers receive the vaccine and are closely monitored for side effects and efficacy.

**Phase II:**

In randomized-control studies, different doses are tested on hundreds of volunteers of different ages, genders, lifestyles, health conditions and races to understand side effects, risks and effectiveness.

**Phase III:**

- The vaccine is given to thousands of individuals to check for safety and efficacy.
- Medical and public health experts approve and authorize promising vaccines.

**Manufacturing**

- Millions of highly skilled workers across the world help produce the COVID-19 vaccines.
- Safety, security and quality control measures make sure each vaccine dose meets the appropriate standards.
- Vaccines are carefully packaged and prepared for transportation.

**Vaccination**

Healthcare workers administer the vaccine to eligible individuals.

**Allocation**

Federal, state and local governments prioritize and determine how to distribute vaccines.

**After the Vaccine**

- The FDA and CDC continue to monitor for any adverse effects.
- It is normal to experience mild to moderate side effects for 1-2 days after your shot. Your immune system is working to protect you.