Why You Should Get the COVID-19 Vaccine

Why are we concerned about people being vaccinated for COVID-19?
The COVID-19 vaccine is an important tool to help end the pandemic. Wearing masks and social distancing help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others, but these measures are not enough. Vaccines will work with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed.

How effective are the available vaccines?
Based on what we currently know, experts believe it will prevent serious illness, hospitalizations, and/or death. A vaccine is typically considered "effective" if it prevents people from coming down with any degree of an illness. In the case of COVID-19, the vaccine doesn't need to completely eliminate the virus to provide many benefits.

What are the benefits of getting the COVID-19 vaccine?
- The vaccine creates an antibody response in your body without your having to become sick with COVID-19.
- The vaccine helps prevent you from getting COVID-19. Or, if you do get COVID-19, the vaccine will keep you from becoming seriously ill or from developing serious complications.
- Getting vaccinated helps protect the people around you from COVID-19, particularly those at increased risk of severe illness from the virus.

Remember to use all of the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Cover your mouth and nose with a mask, stay at least 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

For more information: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccine-benefits

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Health Whys
A public health message from
BlueRidgeHD.org