

SNHS OFFERS MODERNA VACCINE

The Moderna vaccine is being offered at the Seneca Nation Health System. It has been authorized for emergency use by the FDA, under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), to prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for use in individuals 18 years of age and older.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

COVID-19 mRNA vaccines provide instructions (mRNA) for our cells to make a harmless piece of the "spike protein" that is found on the surface of the COVID-19 virus.

The vaccine is given in the upper arm muscle and once inside the muscle cells, the cells make the protein piece. Afterwards, the cell breaks down the mRNA and gets rid of it.

The cell then displays the protein piece on its surface and our immune system recognizes that it doesn't belong there and begins making antibodies. After developing antibodies, our immune system has learned how to protect against future infection.

With a 94.5% effective rate, those getting vaccinated gain protection against the serious consequences of getting sick with COVID-19.

FACTS:

- The Moderna vaccine is 94.5% effective and had 30,350 trial participants.
- Two, 100 mcg doses are given 28 days apart.
- No dilution is required and the vaccine can be stored at -13 to -5 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Approved for use in people over the age of 18
- The vaccine cannot give someone COVID-19 because mRNA vaccines do not use the live virus.
- The vaccine does not affect or interact with our DNA in any way as mRNA never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA (genetic material) is kept.
- mRNA technology was discovered over 30 years ago and has been studied for vaccine purposes for nearly two decades.
- Good news for those that may have concerns or are vaccine-hesitant. **There is no aluminum, mercury, or food allergens.** All people who get a COVID-19 vaccine should be monitored on-site. People with a history of severe allergic reactions should be monitored for 30 minutes after getting the vaccine. All other people should be monitored for 15 minutes after getting the vaccine.

99% SURVIVAL RATE

Though the survival rate is 99%, COVID-19 symptoms can persist for months. The virus can damage the lungs, heart, and brain, which increases the risk of long-term health problems. Even young, otherwise healthy people can feel unwell for weeks to months after infection.

MODERNA SIDE EFFECTS/IMMUNE RESPONSE

Most commonly reported side effects:

- Injection site reaction
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Joint pain
- Fever

This is called an "immune response." This is response without infection and it's a good thing!

These short-term, easily managed side effects are significantly less risky than taking our chances with COVID-19 infection.

THE SECOND DOSE

The Moderna vaccination series is 2 doses given 1 month apart. If you receive one dose of the vaccine, you should receive a second dose of the same vaccine 1 month later to complete the vaccination series. This ensures the vaccine will have the full 94.5% effectiveness.

PLEASE GET VACCINATED



The vaccine benefits outweigh the known risks of contracting COVID-19. The sooner we vaccinate and establish herd immunity the sooner we can remove our masks and hug our friends again.

"A vaccine that is 95% effective means that about 1 out of 20 people who get it may not have protection from getting the illness."~hopkinsmedicine.org

IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE COVID SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



Vaccination does not provide instant immunity. Depending on the vaccine, it can take four to six weeks from initial dosing to achieve immunity and protection levels comparable to those in clinical trials. During this time it is still possible to contract an infection and fall ill.

You should continue to wear a mask, practice social distancing and follow other COVID-19 precautions, even after being fully immunized.



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