Father Of Young Children

Darius is a nurse and father of two sons, 11 and 6 years old. Darius’ parents live nearby, and they help take care of the boys after school when Darius and his wife are still at work. On the weekends he and his wife like to take the family to the playground down the street.

NAME: Darius
AGE: 36
OCCUPATION: Nurse

Mother of Young Daughter

Imani is an office manager for a construction company and mother to her 8 year old daughter. Imani and her wife work to fix up their house on the weekends. Imani would like to become a real estate agent someday. She takes her daughter to a dance class twice a week after school.

NAME: Imani
AGE: 32
OCCUPATION: Office Manager
Mariana works at a clothing store and is six months pregnant with her first child. She and her husband are planning to move to an apartment closer to Mariana’s parents so they can help with the new baby. She likes her job because she always gets to meet new people. She is training to become store manager.

NAME: Mariana
AGE: 28
OCCUPATION: Store clerk

Jayden loves to ride his bicycle and skateboard. Most days he rides to and from school. His favorite subjects in school are art and science. He goes to an after-school program near his school with a lot of other kids. He likes to play basketball or practice drawing there.

NAME: Jayden
AGE: 10
OCCUPATION: Student
Rosa has always loved working in her garden, and spends even more time there since she retired. She takes care of her husband, who has diabetes and is starting to have trouble walking by himself. Her grandkids come over almost every weekend, and she loves to have them help her in the garden.
Getting a COVID-19 vaccine helps adults and children make antibodies to the coronavirus. This can help them to not get sick. It also lets them go back to doing things they could before, like seeing friends.

Most children recover from COVID-19 infections, but some have lasting health problems. Children can get very sick and need to stay in the hospital. Some children have died. Getting vaccinated helps prevent this.
Some children who have had COVID-19 develop another serious condition, when the heart, lungs, or other body part becomes inflamed.

The COVID-19 vaccines were studied in thousands of children. In those studies, no serious safety problems were found.
Nearly 500 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccines have been given so far. They have been monitored very closely for safety.

Fever, tiredness, and other symptoms are normal reactions to the COVID-19 vaccine. They are signs that the body is building protection against the virus.
When germs, such as the virus that causes COVID-19, get into our bodies, they attack our cells and multiply. This is what causes illness.

Children between ages 5 and 11 get a vaccine dose that is suited to their age. Their dose is 3 times smaller than the dose for children and adults who are 12 or older.
Vaccines prepare us to defend ourselves against germs. COVID-19 vaccines leave our bodies with “memory” blood cells that can be quickly activated if we come into contact the virus that causes COVID-19.

When an unvaccinated person comes into contact with the virus that causes COVID-19, it can take their body weeks to make and use all its germ-fighting tools.
Nearly all of the ingredients in COVID-19 vaccines are found in many foods – water, fats, sugars, and salts.

One type of COVID-19 vaccine, known as an mRNA vaccine, instructs our cells to make a harmless piece of the ‘spike’ protein found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. This triggers the creation of antibodies. This protects us against the real virus.
mRNA is the active ingredient in some COVID-19 vaccines. mRNA never enters the nucleus (center) of the cell where our DNA (genetic material) is located, so it cannot change or influence our genes.

After the vaccines ready our bodies to fight off infection, our bodies get rid of all the vaccine ingredients. Removing substances like this is a normal thing that cells do.
Scientists have been studying and developing mRNA vaccines for decades because it is a faster, safer way to produce vaccines.

Vaccinated (and boosted) adults are 44 times less likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19 than adults who are unvaccinated.
When pregnant people get COVID-19 vaccines, the antibodies they produce can pass into the umbilical cord blood and can protect babies against COVID-19.

Breastfeeding people who have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine have antibodies in their breast milk. This can protect their babies against COVID-19.
Pregnant people are more likely to get severely ill with COVID-19 compared with people who are not pregnant.

Becoming ill with COVID-19 when you are pregnant makes it more likely that your baby will be born early or not survive.

No studies have shown that any vaccine causes problems with getting pregnant. This is true for women and men, and this includes the COVID-19 vaccines.
None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain live virus and cannot make anyone sick with COVID-19, including people who are pregnant or their babies.

People who get a COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy do not miscarry more often.
To use if:
Interest in “natural immunity”

To use if:
Concerns about long-term effects of vaccine.
While most people get better within weeks, some people (including children) experience long-term complications such as tiredness, headache, trouble sleeping, and trouble concentrating.

Safety of vaccination.
Serious side effects that could cause long-term health problems are extremely unusual following any vaccination, including COVID-19 vaccination.

The chickenpox virus can lay dormant in the body for years and attack the nervous system later in life (shingles). This only occurs in individuals who achieve “natural immunity” by becoming infected with chickenpox. The chickenpox vaccine gives your body protection against chickenpox and shingles.
Inflammation of the heart (myocarditis) after COVID-19 vaccination is rare. One study of males ages 12 through 17 years found just 54 cases for every one million people. Most patients quickly feel better after resting and taking ibuprofen.

Information from fertility studies

Tens of thousands of people have become pregnant after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

The COVID-19 vaccine does not change whether or how quickly a woman can get pregnant.

The COVID-19 vaccine does not affect sperm characteristics, like quantity and movement, in men who receive the vaccine.
To use if:

Questions about fertility

To use if:

Questions about myocarditis