

# Brown County Health & Human Services

## Public Health Division

### COVID-19 Vaccine

#### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) – January 4, 2021

##### **How will it be determined who will get the vaccine first?**

This will be determined by federal and state officials who have chosen a multi-phased approach. Each phase targets specific populations based on risk and exposure. Currently there are three phases: 1A, 1B, and 1C.

##### **Who will be included in Phase 1A of the vaccination effort?**

Phase 1A will consist of Health Care Personnel (HCP) and residents/staff of Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF).

##### **Who will be included in Phase 1B of the vaccination effort?**

Phase 1B will consist of Essential Workers who are defined by federal and state officials. Some examples of those essential workers include, but are not limited to, law enforcement, fire departments, education sector, utilities sector, transportation sector, food and agriculture.

##### **How do I know if I am considered an essential worker?**

Federal and state officials will clarify which industries are considered essential as this definition may differ from the previous designation used. The change would be a result of vaccine availability not lesser importance.

##### **Who will be included in Phase 1C of the vaccination effort?**

Phase 1C will consist of adults who are at higher risk due to preexisting medical conditions, as well as adults over the age of 65 years old.

\*Please consult your healthcare provider if you believe you may have a qualifying condition.

##### **Does Brown County Public Health maintain lists of people who need vaccination due to a health condition?**

No. Brown County Public Health refers individuals to their health care provider or other community resource for consultation with their circumstances.

##### **I am pregnant or breastfeeding should I get the COVID-19 vaccine?**

Brown County Public Health recommends you reach out to your health care provider or local community resource center for information regarding your circumstance.

##### **I am immunocompromised should I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?**

Brown County Public Health recommends you reach out to your health care provider or local community resource center for information regarding your circumstance.



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### **Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?**

No. There is no live virus in the vaccine. The vaccine creates a spike protein that your body will recognize that will cause an immune response if you are exposed to COVID-19 in the future.

### **Which vaccine should I get?**

The current approved vaccines, along with the vaccines with pending approvals, were highly effective in tests. Currently vaccine availability is the deciding factor on which vaccine a person receives.

### **Is the vaccine safe?**

The FDA requires both safety and efficacy for approval. Current President Trump, President-Elect Biden, and US public health officials support vaccination. Learn more about vaccine safety here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html>

### **Why should I get a vaccine if I can just wear a mask and social distance?**

Stopping a pandemic requires using all tools available. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body is ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. Other steps such as wearing a mask and socially distancing, help to reduce your chances of being exposed or spreading the virus to others. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC recommendations will offer the best protection from the virus.

### **What can I do now to help protect myself from COVID-19 until the vaccine is available to me?**

You should continue to cover your nose and mouth with a mask, avoid close contact with people who are feeling ill, stay 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds or large gatherings, and wash your hands frequently.

### **Where can I find more information on COVID-19 and the Vaccine?**

Information on COVID-19 and the current status of the vaccine can be found at the following websites:

[StayHealthyBC \(browncountywi.gov\)](https://www.browncountywi.gov/StayHealthyBC)

[Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html)

[COVID-19: Frequently Asked Questions | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](https://www.wisconsin.gov/health-services/covid-19)



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