

GET THE FACTS: PART 2

YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE QUESTIONS: ANSWERED



WHEN WILL THE COVID-19 VACCINE BE AVAILABLE TO ME?

- As of right now, the vaccine will not be available to the general public until **Spring 2021**.
- Currently, Virginia and North Carolina are offering the vaccine to healthcare workers and residents/staff of long-term care facilities.
- Next, the vaccine will be made available to other essential workers, older adults, and those with underlying medical conditions.



WILL THERE BE ENOUGH VACCINE FOR EVERYONE?

- **Yes, eventually.** We currently have limited vaccine supplies because the vaccines have recently received FDA approval for emergency use.
- Pfizer and Moderna are increasing production while clinical trial results from additional manufacturers are being reviewed.
- Virginia and North Carolina state departments expect to have enough supply to vaccinate any community member who wants one in Spring, 2021 (exact timing still TBD).



HOW WILL WE RECEIVE THE VACCINE?

- Planning is now underway for how essential workers, older adults, and other community populations will receive the vaccine.
- Virginia and North Carolina state departments of health are creating plans for community-wide vaccination events.
- We do not know yet where these vaccination events will occur, or what Sentara Healthcare's role will be.



ONCE I RECEIVE THE COVID-19 VACCINE, WHEN WILL I BE IMMUNE?

- A person does not achieve immunity from the COVID-19 virus until **6-8 weeks AFTER their first dose**.
- You will need **TWO doses**, spaced between 3-4 weeks apart, in order to achieve 95% immunity.



CAN I STOP WEARING A MASK ONCE VACCINATED?

- **No!** Everyone will need to **continue to wear a mask and social distance** regardless of if they receive the vaccine.
- Why? The COVID-19 virus and vaccine are still so new, we do not know yet if a person can spread the virus after getting vaccinated.

We will continue to keep you updated with more information as soon as it becomes available. **For the most up-to-date information, visit [Sentara.com](https://www.sentara.com)**