HOW COVID-19 AFFECTS PREGNANCY

Should you get the vaccine during pregnancy? Does the vaccine cause infertility?

If you are thinking about getting pregnant or are pregnant, you may have lots of questions. Learn about NIH's ongoing research to answer these questions and more about the possible effects of COVID-19 on pregnancy.

IS MY BABY AT RISK IF I TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

Pregnant people with COVID-19 are more likely to get seriously ill, which can lead to pregnancy problems such as preterm birth. The CDC recommends that pregnant people get vaccinated to protect against serious illness. Source.

DO VACCINES CAUSE INFERTILITY?

There is no evidence currently that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause female or male fertility problems. The CDC recommends COVID-19 vaccines for people who are pregnant or are trying to get pregnant. Source.

IS IT SAFE TO GET A COVID-19 VACCINE WHEN PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING?

Research shows that vaccines are safe and effective while pregnant or breastfeeding. Vaccination prevents COVID-19 and reduces the risk of severe disease. Vaccines are very effective against SARS-CoV-2 variants. The antibodies your body makes after vaccination can travel to the baby before birth or through breastmilk after birth. An NIH-supported study found that when a pregnant person has antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 after being vaccinated or having COVID-19, those antibodies may be transferred to the baby through breastmilk. The antibodies help babies gain immunity that can protect them from COVID-19. Source.

HOW YOU CAN HELP ADVANCE RESEARCH

People who are pregnant or just gave birth may join NIH research studies so that scientists can gather more data on vaccine safety and effectiveness in pregnancy. Scientists are also using data from people who got pregnant while participating in earlier vaccine studies. Learn More.

COMBATCOVID

Combat COVID is a resource created by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services to help people join COVID-19 clinical trials and to provide science-based facts on vaccines, treatment, and studies. https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/

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