

Mask up, sanitise and vaccinate!

COVID-19 vaccines:

Here's why they're safe for you

COVID-19



HOW DO I KNOW THAT COVID-19 VACCINES ARE SAFE



- 1

Before any vaccine is introduced to a population, it goes through numerous tests and clinical trials to ensure that it is safe and effective to use.
- 2

Phase 1 of a clinical trial can be between 2 and 80 people, phase 2 can expand to up to 80 people based on the success of phase 1, and by the third phase of tests and trials, participants can be in the tens of thousands.
- 3

Once the trials have shown to be successful and safe for humans, phase 4 includes the vaccines having to get regulatory approval and licencing before they can be manufactured and distributed. At this stage, volunteers continue to participate in the vaccine clinical trials.
- 4

Even after the vaccine is on the market, it continues to be tested and monitored throughout its use, and is improved over time.
- 5

Some of the COVID-19 vaccine trials have been done in South Africa (the Sisonke trial), Germany, Australia, India, the UK, the USA, Italy, Brazil and more.

Mask up, sanitise and vaccinate!

COVID-19 vaccines: Here's why they're safe for you

COVID-19



HOW CAN I TRUST COVID-19 VACCINES ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY WERE DEVELOPED SO FAST?



COVID-19 belongs to the coronavirus family. Because of the existence of earlier coronavirus diseases like SARS in 2003 and MERS in 2012, a lot of research on how coronaviruses behave was already present by the time that COVID-19 arrived. This gave the medical field a big head start in quickly developing a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine.



SOMEONE I KNOW GOT SICK AFTER BEING VACCINATED, AND THAT WORRIES ME



1

Your worries are valid. Any vaccine will cause side effects, which can make you feel a little unwell after receiving it. The COVID-19 vaccine is no exception, and most experience mild symptoms such as a headache, slight fever or chills, soreness on the arm you were vaccinated on, tiredness and slight muscle or joint ache. This is totally normal and also temporary.

Underlying health conditions could be the cause of a very small percentage of people getting severely ill after taking the vaccine. Even if this is the case, their illness is not directly caused by the COVID-19 vaccine. None of the COVID-19 vaccines contains the live virus that causes COVID-19.

2

Mask up, sanitise and vaccinate!

COVID-19 vaccines:

Here's why they're safe for you

COVID-19



CAN VACCINES ACTUALLY ERADICATE DISEASES



Yes, they can. Smallpox disease is one example of this. This was the very first highly contagious and deadly disease to be globally eradicated in 1980 through vaccination.

1



WORLD POLIO DAY
24 October

2

Polio is another severely life-threatening disease that is very close to eradication. Two out of the three wild poliovirus types have been eradicated due to vaccination. Wild poliovirus type 2 was eradicated in 2015 and wild poliovirus type 3 was eradicated in 2019.