

The truth about the COVID-19 vaccine

As soon as COVID-19 hit the news, the race for a vaccine began. Now that it's here, you may be unsure if you want it. Despite what you may have heard, the vaccine is your best chance at protecting against COVID. **Here are five facts to help you decide to get vaccinated.**

1



The vaccine works.

Current vaccines protect against COVID 95% of the time. Compare this to the flu vaccine, which is effective 40–60% of the time.

2



The vaccine cannot give you the virus. COVID-19 vaccines don't contain live viruses. Because of this, they can't cause you to have COVID-19. They can, however, teach your body to recognize and fight off the live version.

3



Nearly all reactions are mild.

Most people experience no side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. If you have a reaction, you'll likely have mild symptoms, such as arm pain or a low fever.

4



You'll need a booster shot for the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

Unlike the flu shot, COVID-19 vaccine recipients must receive a booster shot. Depending on which vaccine you receive, the second injection should be received 21 days (Pfizer-BioNTech) or 28 days (Moderna) after initial immunization.

5



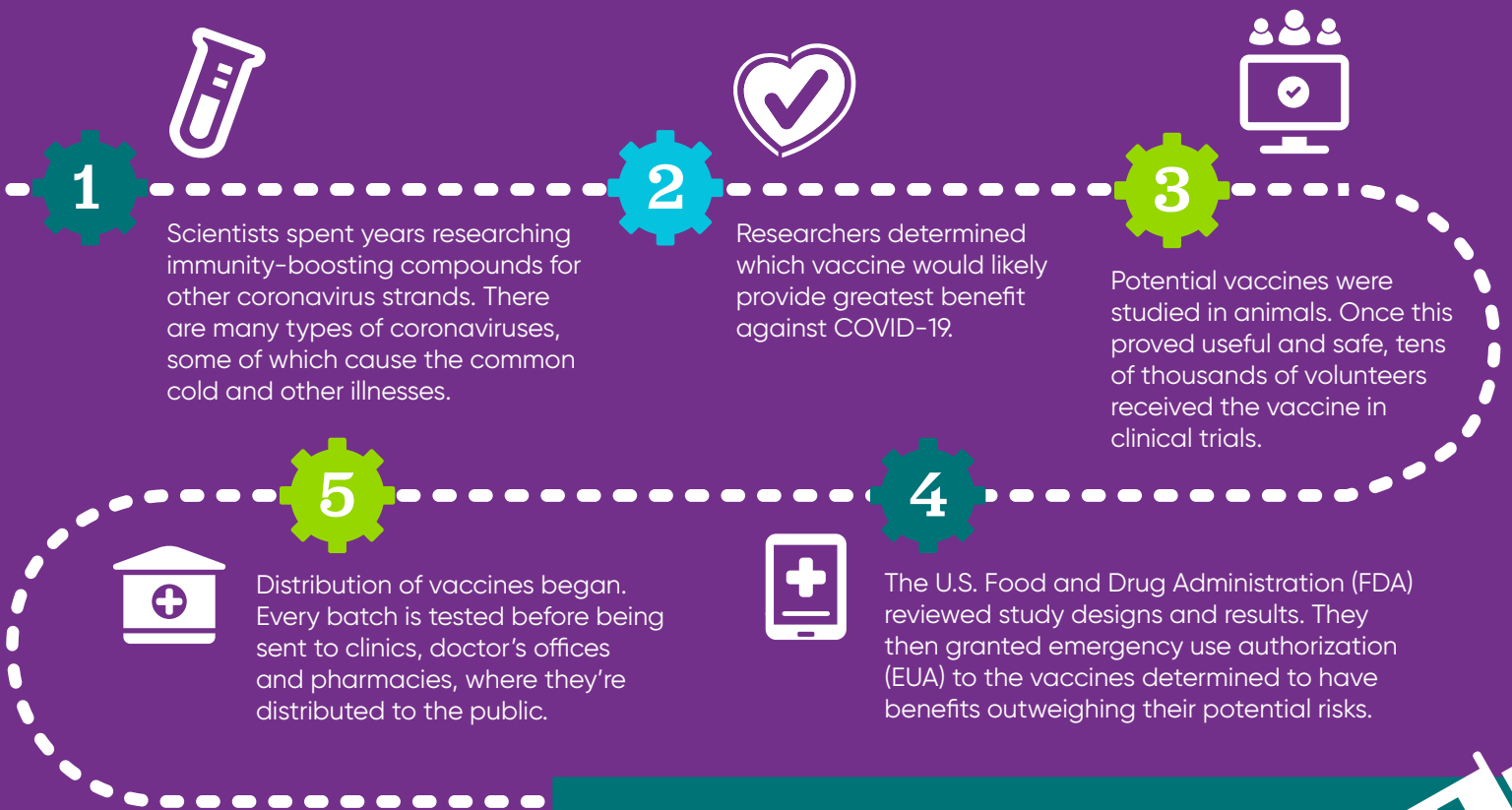
It's safer than the virus.

Everything comes with risks. However, the risk of vaccine complications is significantly lower than the inherent risks of contracting COVID-19.

Source: Krames

Inside the making of COVID-19 vaccines

From the outside, it seems like the COVID-19 vaccine was created in just a few months. But is this true? Not exactly. Here is how COVID-19 vaccines went from the lab to ready for emergency use.



What exactly is EUA?

One reason COVID-19 vaccines were available so quickly is because they were given emergency use authorization (EUA). With EUA, a vaccine or other treatment can be fast-tracked during a public health crisis. While the process is sped along, vaccines, medication and other therapies given an EUA must still meet rigorous FDA standards.

Source: Krames