COVID-19 Vaccine Acceptance: What Employees Need to Know

May 26, 2021
What Influences Vaccine Hesitancy?

1. Confidence
   Do not trust vaccine or provider

2. Not Understanding the Need
   Do not see a need for a vaccine, or do not value the vaccine due to false information about it

3. Lack of Access
   Makes it hard for people to get the health care they need
Top 6 Reasons for Not Getting Vaccinated

1. Belief that the vaccines are not tested enough
2. Worried about potential side effects
3. Afraid of getting COVID-19 from the vaccine
4. Religious or political reasons
5. Concerned about infertility, pregnancy, and breastfeeding
6. Worried there are harmful ingredients in the vaccine
Concern #1: The Vaccine Was Not Tested Enough

Fact: The COVID-19 vaccine was made based on many years of work. While steps were done quickly, no steps were skipped.
Concern #2: The Vaccine Has Side Effects

Fact:
You might have some side effects that last only a short period of time of 1-2 days. This means your body is building protection.

Common side effects include:

On the arm:
- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

Throughout the rest of your body:
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle Pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea
Concern #3: Afraid of Getting COVID-19 From the Vaccine

Facts:

1. None of the COVID vaccines contain the live virus that causes COVID-19, so it cannot make you sick with it.

2. The vaccine will help protect you from getting COVID-19 by teaching your body how to make an antibody to fight it.

That’s how you win, and the virus loses.
Concern #4:
Religious or Political Beliefs

Facts:
Making an informed decision about getting the vaccine can help to know if it’s right for each person’s beliefs.

We do know **the science is clear**. The vaccine helps:

- Protect against getting COVID-19
- Prevents severe disease and death
- Us to return to normal more quickly
Concern #5: COVID-19 Vaccine & Fertility

Facts:

Social media messaging has been spreading that the vaccine causes infertility. These claims are untrue.

- These claims have been reviewed by experts on fertility and there is NO data to support that these vaccines impact fertility.
- People undergoing fertility treatment and/or attempting to get pregnant are encouraged to consider getting the vaccination when their priority group is open.
Concern #6: COVID-19 Vaccine & Breastfeeding

Facts:

• None of the currently approved vaccines are thought to be a risk to the breastfeeding infant.

• Unlikely vaccine would enter the bloodstream and reach breast tissue – even less likely to transfer into milk and even less likely to have any biologic impact on breastfeeding baby.

• Antibodies may passively transfer into milk and provide protection to infant that cannot get vaccinated.

• Women who are nursing their babies can consider getting vaccinated if they are eligible.
Concern #7: Pregnancy & COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines

Facts:

Arguments to Consider

Benefit

• COVID infection during pregnancy has been associated with increased severity of illness, death and preterm labor
• Potential protection of baby through mother’s antibodies

What we know from COVID-19 data to date

• Studies for all available vaccines show no signs for concern
• Individuals became pregnant during COVID-19 vaccine trials – no issues reported to date

Expert opinions. The medical groups below recommend considering vaccination for pregnant women:

• American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
• Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
• Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Concern #7:
Pregnancy & COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines

Facts:

Arguments to Hold Off

- Pregnant women were not included in the COVID-19 vaccine trials
- mRNA vaccines (first available) are low risk, but not previously studied in pregnancy
Concern #8:
There are harmful ingredients in the COVID-19 Vaccine

Facts:

• There is NO LIVE VIRUS in the vaccines
• The ingredient list for the vaccines does not include any toxic ingredients
• The leading vaccines have been tested for several months in thousands of people without issues
• The COVID-19 virus has killed over 500,000 Americans and more than 1.6 million people worldwide
Thank you.