PROTECT CHICAGO

COVID-19 VARIANTS: WHY YOU SHOULD GET VACCINATED TO PROTECT YOURSELF, LOVED ONES, AND COMMUNITY!

Viruses can change over time. Sometimes, they develop new versions with some differences. These different versions are called variants. Some of these variants can become very powerful. They can spread quickly and infect more people.

Why are we talking about variants now?

Several COVID-19 variants are now spreading in the U.S. – including right here in Chicago. Some of these variants might:

- Make the virus more likely to infect you (even if you've already had COVID-19 or gotten the vaccine)
- Make people sicker or need hospitalization – or even cause death
- Respond less well to treatments that work on other variants

So far, the evidence shows that the COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. provide good protection against variants currently going around. The vaccines are very good at giving your body defenses against the variants, protecting you from getting very sick, going to the hospital, or dying. But we still need to get more people vaccinated to stop new variants from spreading or getting stronger.

I got the COVID-19 vaccine. How does this affect me?

To stay healthy, it is very important to be fully vaccinated. While J&J is one dose, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines both require two doses. For all three vaccines, an additional booster dose is recommended to give you the most protection from COVID-19 and its variants.

You can still get infected even if you have gotten the vaccine. If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, stay home and get tested to be safe. Even if you did get infected after getting vaccinated, you won't get as sick as if you had not been vaccinated.

How do I stay healthy and protect myself, my friends and my family?

If you haven't gotten the COVID-19 vaccine yet, now is the time! It will protect you in many ways. And it will also help us stop the spread. You will be helping people in your life who aren't able to get the vaccine such as kids who are not old enough right now, or your friends and family with certain health issues.

Protect yourself, your loved ones, and community.

To find a COVID-19 vaccine,
visit CHI.GOV/COVIDVAX
or call 312-746-4835

CDPH
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