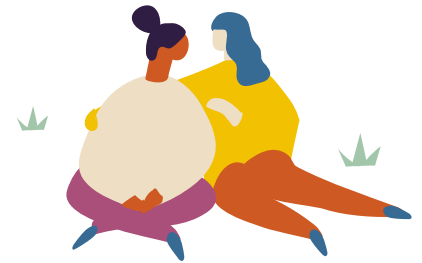


WORD ON THE STREET

NAVIGATING COVID-19 CONVERSATIONS

WHAT ARE OUR NAVIGATORS HEARING?

"Does the vaccine cause fertility problems? Is it safe for pregnant persons?"



WHAT DOES THE SCIENCE SAY?

The COVID-19 vaccines do not cause female or male fertility problems nor does it affect a person's ability to become pregnant now or in the future. The vaccines have now been given to billions of people across the world, many of whom have become pregnant after vaccination. Some people even became pregnant during the clinical trials!

Benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweigh any known or potential risks of vaccination during pregnancy. None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain the live virus that causes COVID-19 so a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make anyone sick with COVID-19, including pregnant people or their babies. COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy might help protect babies against COVID-19.

Anyone who is pregnant, breastfeeding, or thinking of becoming pregnant in the future should get vaccinated. COVID-19 can be life-threatening for pregnant people and their babies. All major reproductive health organizations strongly recommend vaccination for people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or thinking about becoming pregnant in the future.

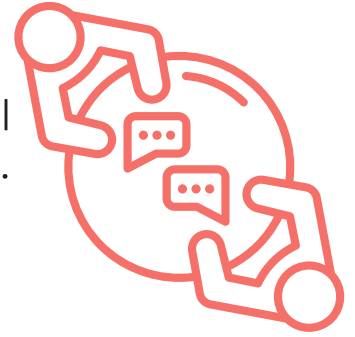
Learn more: [COVID-19 Vaccines for People Who Would Like to Have a Baby, CDC](#); [COVID-19 Vaccines While Pregnant or Breastfeeding, CDC](#)

What are you hearing? Share the 'word on the street' from your perspective by filling out [this form](#).

SENSITIVE CONVERSATIONS

You're talking to a community member who says s/he will not get vaccinated because s/he wants to start a family. S/he read that the COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility.

How do you respond?



HELPFUL TIPS FOR RESPONDING

Listen Actively: *It's important to understand where the concern is coming from. Listen without judgment. Is this something she heard from a family member or friend? Did she read something online about this? Is it just a general fear because the vaccines feel unfamiliar? Knowing the origin of the belief will allow you to tailor your response to her specific concerns.*

Acknowledge and Respond to Emotion: *Fears about fertility and pregnancy may be very emotional for some. Acknowledge and respond to that fear. Say things like, 'I know you just want what's best for your family and your future children.' Share the other side of this issue as well: Let people know the heartbreaking reality of how many pregnant people have ended up in the ICU because they were afraid to get vaccinated. Emphasize the peace of mind a pregnant person can feel once they are vaccinated, knowing they won't get seriously ill with COVID-19.*

Engage in a Dialogue: *Ask permission to share what you know. Leave space for questions. Listen just as much as you speak, so that the power balance always remains equal. This will help build trust, especially when someone has felt disempowered in the past.*

More Tips can be found here: [How to talk about COVID-19 vaccines with friends and family. CDC.](#)

You might say: "That is a very valid concern. Currently, no evidence shows that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems in women or men. Can I share more about the study that supports this finding?"

[Read more here](#)

FROM UNSURE TO VACCINATED: STORIES FROM THE FIELD



Do you know someone who had their doubts or questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, but later decided to get the vaccine? If they are comfortable sharing their story, we would love to hear it and learn from it.

Contact us today so we can highlight them in an upcoming newsletter by filling out [this form](#).

WHAT WE'RE READING / LISTENING TO:

- Reproductive Health and COVID-19 Vaccines: Frequently Asked Questions. NYC Dept. of Health. August 28, 2021. [Read here.](#)
- Can the COVID-19 Vaccines Affect My Fertility? Mount Sinai Health System. July 8, 2021. [Watch here.](#)
- Coronavirus (COVID-19), Pregnancy, and Breastfeeding: A Message for Patients. ACOG FAQ. August 4, 2021. [Read here.](#)
- Here's Where That COVID-19 Vaccine Infertility Myth Came From—And Why It Is Not True. Henry Ford Health System. April 23, 2021. [Read here.](#)
- COVID Vaccines Show No Signs of Harming Fertility or Sexual Function. Scientific American. August 24, 2021. [Read here.](#)





NAVIGATOR SHOUT OUT

My name is Ronald Harper. I am a returning citizen. I have been working with the test and trace program for a year.

I enjoy my job. It has given me the opportunity to make an honest living.

The Family Health Institute of Harlem has given me the opportunity to go out and assist my community. This is important to me because once I was part of the problem. Now I am part of the solution.

Vaccine event shared on Facebook

RONALD HARPER
Community Health Worker
The Institute for Family Health

THANK
YOU



Our navigators and community healthcare workers are working hard every day to make a big impact on NYC's public health.

We want to highlight you! To share your bio and photo, or to nominate a colleague, complete [this form!](#)

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS VACCINATED AT MOBILE VACCINATION VANS ACROSS NYC BOROUGHES 7/21-8/30

Bronx	12 individuals vaccinated	1 event
Brooklyn	336 individuals vaccinated	14 events
Manhattan	180 individuals vaccinated	9 events
Queens	253 individuals vaccinated	9 events
Staten Island	34 individuals vaccinated	1 event

A TOTAL OF

815

INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN
VACCINATED SINCE 7/21

THANK YOU

to all the organizations
for your hard work and
efforts in making our
communities safer!