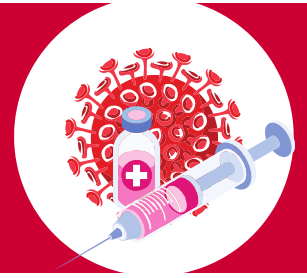


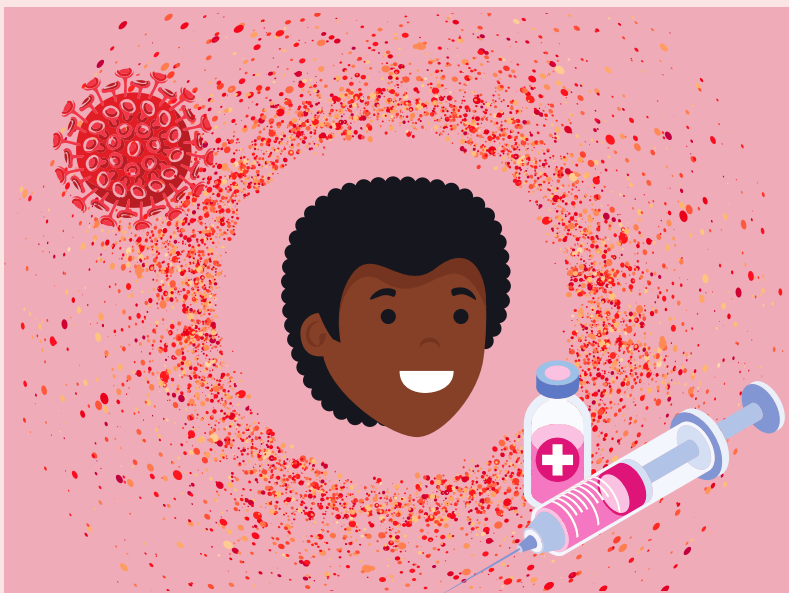
GETTING A COVID-19 VACCINE: A SOCIAL STORY FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



COVID-19 is a disease caused by a virus that spreads easily and can make people very sick. The COVID-19 vaccine is a medicine that prevents you from getting COVID-19. Like most vaccines, the COVID-19 vaccine is given by shots using a needle. This social story can help you understand why it's important to get a COVID-19 vaccine and what you can expect.



**I want to protect myself
and people around me
from getting sick from
COVID-19.**



**I will get a COVID-19
vaccine so I don't get very
sick from COVID-19.**



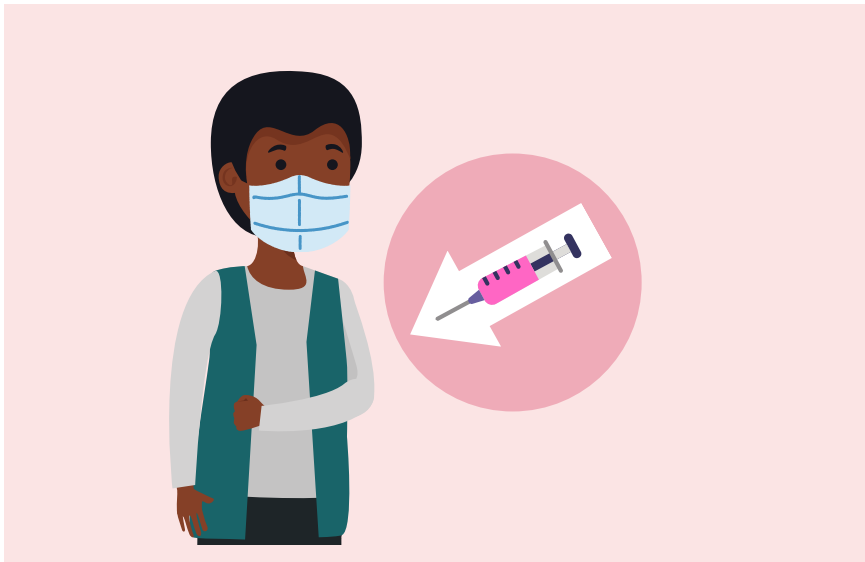
I can get a COVID-19 vaccine at a pharmacy, urgent care clinic, hospital, or other site where it is given near me.



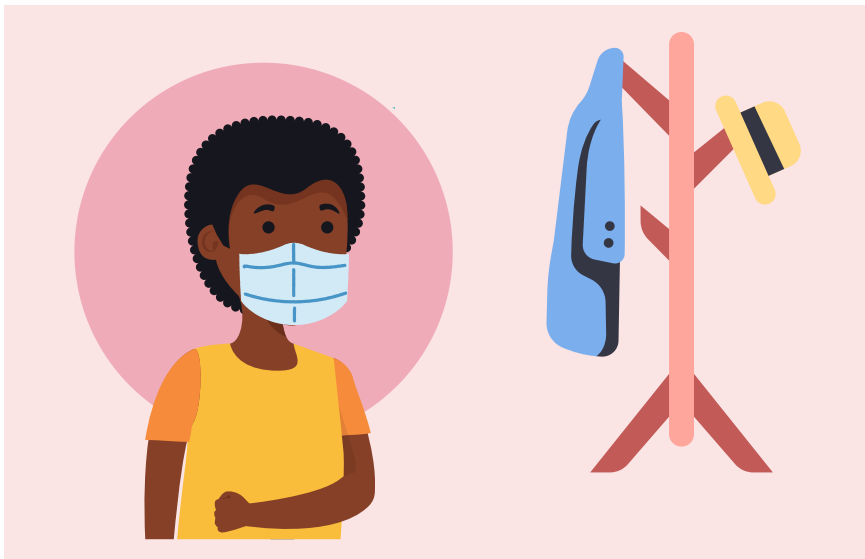
I will bring my health insurance card. Someone who supports me may hold on to it for me.



If I have a guardian, I will bring written permission or required consent form that says I have their agreement to get the vaccine.



The shot goes in my arm with a needle.



I will roll up my sleeve or take off my jacket when it is my turn.



I will need to relax and sit still.



I can look away from my arm and close my eyes if I am afraid.



I can also listen to music or talk to someone who supports me if I am scared.



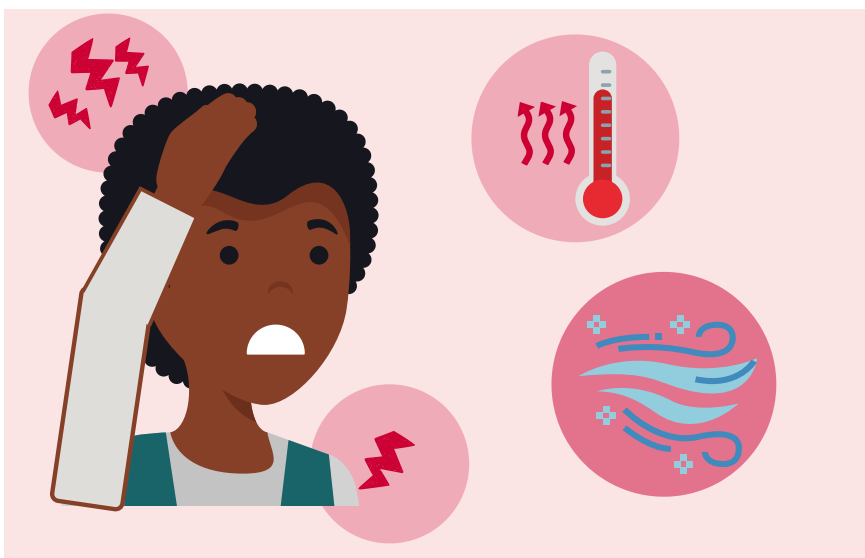
The person giving the shot will wipe my skin clean first.



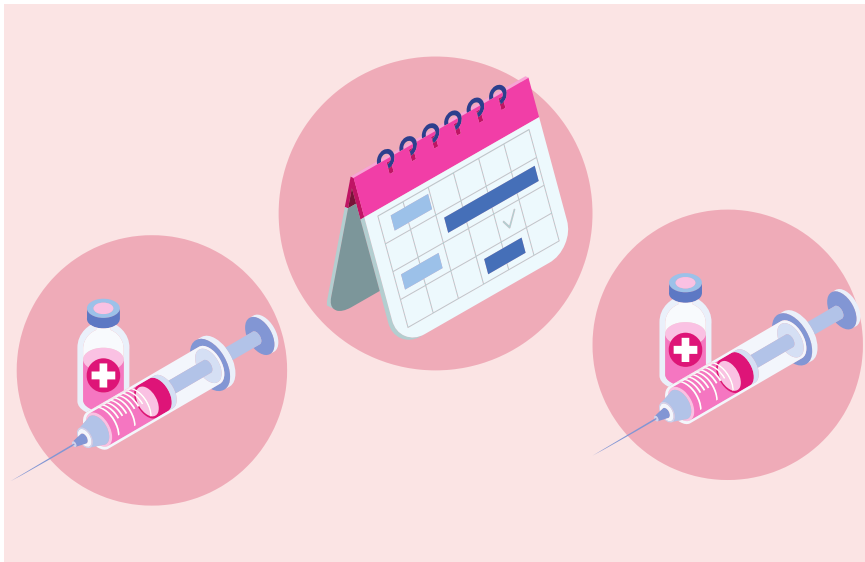
I may feel a pinch when the needle goes into my arm.



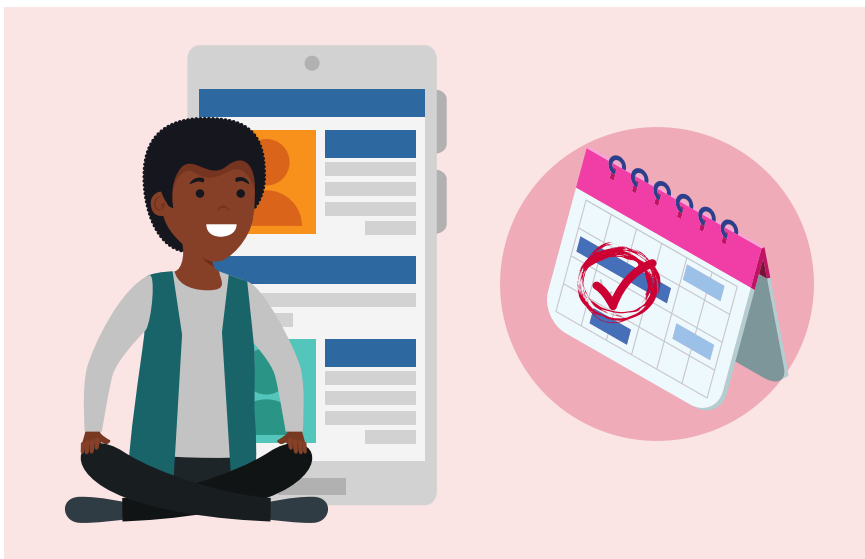
They will cover it with a band-aid, or tape and a cotton ball.



My arm may be sore after the shot and I might feel tired, have a fever, chills, or headache.



There are different versions of the vaccine. Most require 2 shots. I will get information about which vaccine I received.



I will make an appointment to get my second shot.



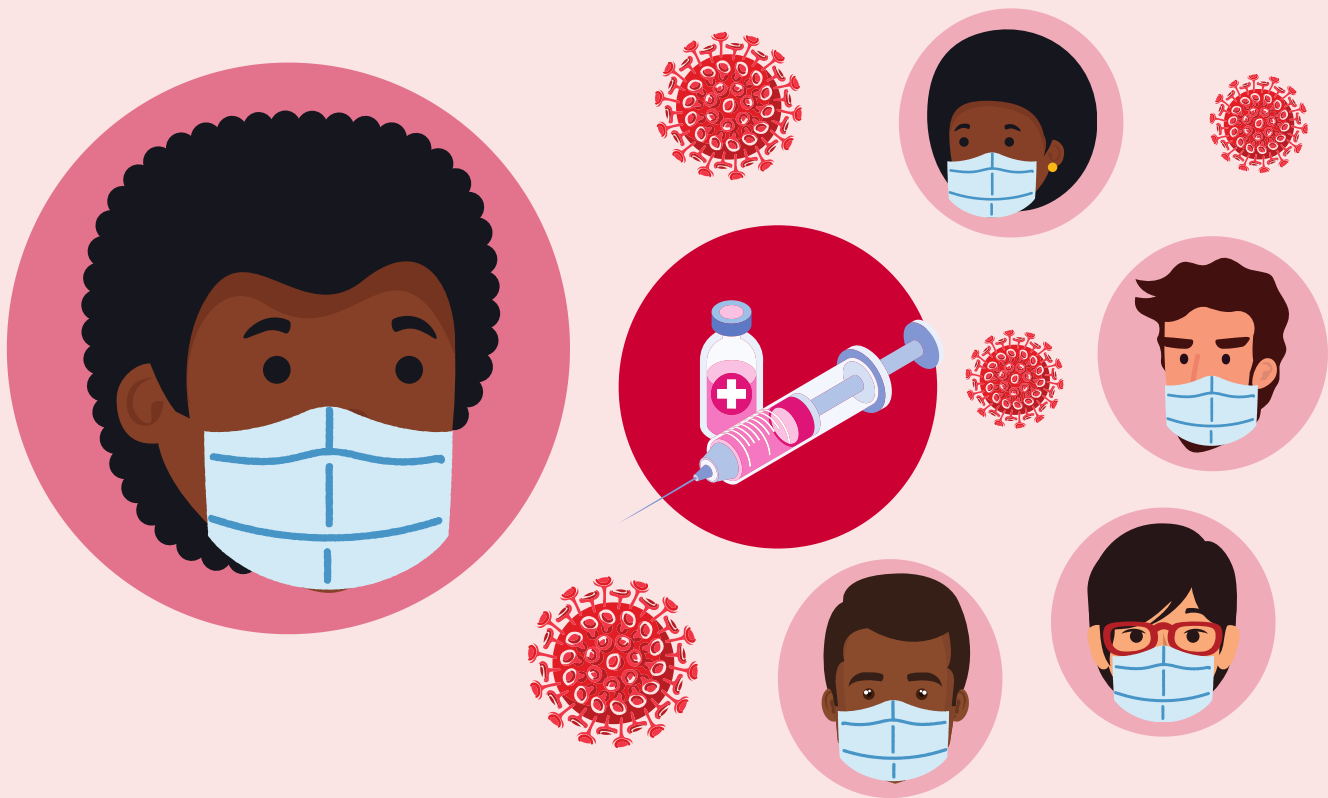
The vaccine will start to protect me from COVID-19 about a week or 2 after I get the second shot.



I will continue to stay safe by wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, and practicing healthy habits like handwashing and using hand sanitizer.



I want to keep myself and others healthy and safe from COVID-19.



I want to keep everyone healthy and safe from COVID-19.

Preparation of this resource was supported by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities.

January, 2021

Looking for more information about the COVID-19 vaccine and why it's important to the developmental disabilities community?

Check out The Boggs Center's *COVID-19 Vaccine Facts for the Developmental Disabilities Community*:

<https://rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter/publications/COVID19Vaccine.html>

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