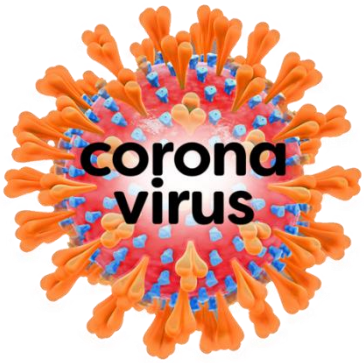
This information is about the Coronavirus vaccine.



Coronavirus is a type of illness that makes people feel poorly.

People who have Coronavirus may:

- Have a sore throat
- Have a high temperature
- Have a cough
- Find it more difficult to breathe than normal
- Loss of smell or taste

To stop people getting Coronavirus people called scientists have made a **vaccine**.

A scientist is a person who tries to understand how our world and other things work.

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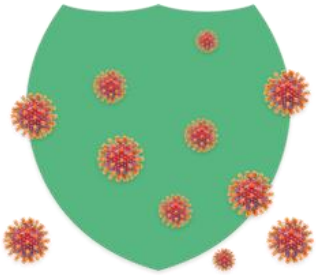
What is a vaccine?

A vaccine helps your body to make antibodies.



Your body makes antibodies when it fights an infection, like Coronavirus.

After having a vaccination your body gets better at fighting that illness, without you having to get poorly first.

Unlike lots of medicines, which can treat or cure diseases, vaccines can stop them without you getting poorly.

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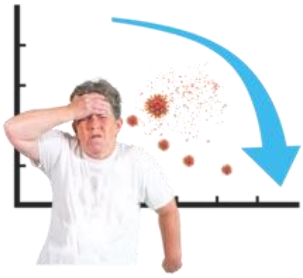

At the moment there is 1 vaccine that is ready to be given to people.

The vaccine does not give you Coronavirus. It teaches your body to fight the virus.

The Pfizer vaccine is licensed (for emergency use) and doctors and scientists say that it is safe to use.

Doctors and scientists think that if people have the vaccine, less people will get ill from Coronavirus.

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Who will get the vaccine?

Older people are at risk of being really ill if they get Coronavirus.

The people who will be offered the vaccine first are:

People who live in care homes for older people

Staff that work in care homes for older people

Everyone over 80 years old

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Staff that support people will also be asked if they would like to have the vaccine.

There are other groups of people who will be asked if they would like the vaccine.

It will take some time for all of the groups of people to be asked if they want the vaccine.

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How will I know about the vaccine?

If you are in one of the groups of people who are being offered the vaccine, you will be contacted when it is your turn. This might be by letter.

You won't have to pay to have the vaccine.

You will be asked if you want to have the vaccine. The vaccine will make it less likely that you will get Coronavirus.

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If you are not sure about having the vaccine, people can support you to get more information.

This could be people you trust, family, friends or staff that support you.

They can help you to understand the good things and any bad things you need to think about, so that you can decide if you want the vaccine.

You can say **"No"** if you do not want the vaccine.

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If you have the vaccine you will be offered an injection.

If you don't want an injection there might be other ways you can have the vaccine.

The scientists are trying to make a vaccine that is not an injection. This might be an inhaler or nose drops. This is not ready yet.

A doctor or a nurse will give you the injection. This could be at a hospital, your doctors, or at a clinic.

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You will have 2 injections.

When you have had the vaccine this will be your first injection.

You will have another injection 3 or 4 weeks later.

You will not get Coronavirus after you have had the second injection.

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Some people might have sore muscles or a temperature after the injection. This is because the vaccine is new to your body.

If you don't feel well you can ring your doctor or nurse to check you are ok.

If you want to know more about the vaccine you can talk to your doctor or nurse.

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