

COVID-19 & OUR SCHOOLS  
The Jacksonville North Pulaski School District  
COVID-19 Vaccine...**Do I Really Need It?**

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# COVID-19 BASICS

The slide features a dark blue background. The title 'COVID-19 BASICS' is centered in white, uppercase letters. Below the title, there are two horizontal blue bars. The first bar is a solid blue rectangle. The second bar is a blue rectangle that starts to the right of the first bar and has a 3D effect, appearing to be a block that has been pushed forward from the right edge of the first bar.

# What is COVID-19?

- Coronavirus
  - **Virus** that causes infection in your nose, sinuses, or upper throat
- SARS-CoV-2
  - December 2019, outbreak of respiratory infection identified as SARS-CoV-2
  - US – saw the same mysterious pneumonia-like illness
- COVID-19
  - **Disease** caused by SARS-CoV-2



# Symptoms of COVID-19

- Fever
- Coughing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Chills
- Body Aches
- Headaches
- Sore throat
- Congestion/runny nose
- Nausea
- Diarrhea
- *Loss of smell or taste*

# What to do if you suspect exposure?

- **Quarantine** immediately to prevent spread
- **Get tested** at the right time
  - Antigen
    - Positive tests are very specific, danger of more false negatives
    - Can get results in under an hour
  - PCR
    - More reliable because looks for the virus's genetic material, highly specific
    - Can take up to a week for results
- **Treat symptoms**, if needed



# COVID-19 VARIANTS

The slide features a dark blue background. The title 'COVID-19 VARIANTS' is centered in white, uppercase, sans-serif font. Below the title, there are two horizontal blue bars. The first bar is a solid blue rectangle. The second bar is a blue rectangle that starts to the right of the first bar and has a 3D effect, appearing to be a block that has been pushed forward from the first bar.

# COVID-19 Variants

- Several variants exist
  - VOI (interest) – being monitored (6)
  - VOC (concern) – being closely monitored (4)
  - VOHC (high consequence) – currently none that rise to the level of HC
- VOC's
  - Alpha – United Kingdom
  - Beta – South Africa
  - DELTA – India
  - Gamma – Japan/Brazil



# COVID-19 VACCINE

The slide features a dark blue background. The title 'COVID-19 VACCINE' is centered in white, uppercase letters. Below the title, there are two horizontal blue bars. The first bar is a solid blue rectangle. The second bar is a 3D-style blue rectangle that appears to be floating above the first one, starting from the right edge of the first bar and extending to the right edge of the slide.



# Three Vaccines Available Today

- **Pfizer – BioNTech**

- 2 Doses
- 21 days apart
- Ages  $\geq$  12 years
- 95% effective

- **Moderna**

- 2 doses
- 28 days apart
- Ages  $\geq$  18 years
- 94% effective

- **Johnson & Johnson**

- 1 dose
- Ages  $\geq$  18 years
- 94% effective

All three vaccines have been approved by the FDA under a special designation called an **Emergency Use Authorization ONLY**.

They are not FDA approved yet.

# Vaccine Effectiveness

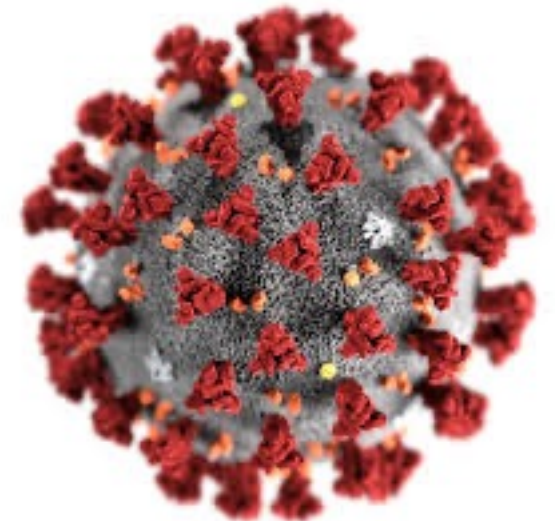
- Pfizer
  - 95.3% effective in preventing severe disease or death (Alpha/Beta)
  - 88% effective against symptomatic disease/96% effective against hospitalization (DELTA)
- Moderna
  - 94.1% effective in preventing symptomatic disease
  - Shows some effectiveness but more research is needed on Delta variant effectiveness
- Johnson & Johnson
  - 86% effective in preventing severe disease or death (Alpha)
  - Shows some effectiveness but waiting for final review of data for Delta variant effectiveness



# What is in the vaccines?

## Pfizer and Moderna Vaccines

- mRNA vaccines
- Provide the body with **instructions/code to fight COVID-19**
- **Helps the body to remember and manufacture protection** against the “spike protein” on the virus
- If the body sees the actual virus, it has the “instructions to **protect itself against the disease**”
- **Does not have any live COVID-19** in the vaccine, only **only a piece** of the “spike protein”



# What are the side effects of the vaccine?

- First Dose

- Soreness at injection site
- Fever
- Body aches
- Chills
- Fatigue

- Second Dose

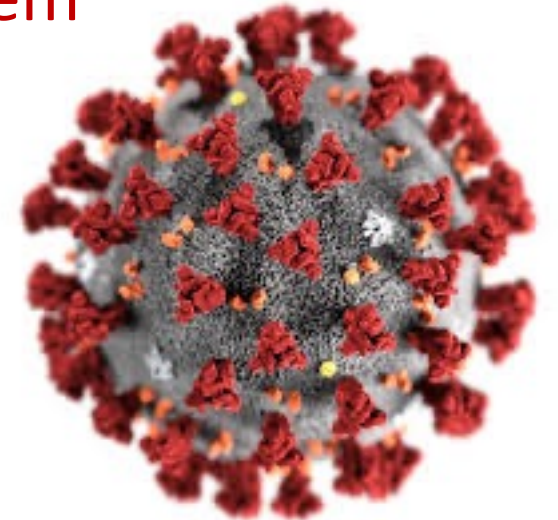
*Side effects may be more pronounced because of immune response*

- Soreness at injection site
- Fever
- Body aches
- Chills
- Fatigue

# What is in the vaccines?

## Johnson & Johnson Vaccines

- Typical vaccine
- Made with a piece of DNA from the COVID-19 spike protein and combined with adenovirus
- Adenovirus carries the instructions to your immune system
- Helps the immune system to recognize the virus and develop antibodies for future infection
- Does not have any live COVID-19 in the vaccine, only only a piece of the “spike protein”



# What are the side effects of the vaccine?

- Single Dose
  - Soreness at injection site
  - Pain/Redness/Swelling at injection site
  - Fever
  - Headache
  - Body aches
  - Chills
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle pain
  - Nausea



# Who CDC recommends should not get the vaccine?

- If you have a severe allergic reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine
- If you have a non-severe allergic reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine
- If you have had an allergic reaction to other types of vaccines
- If you have severe allergies not related to vaccines
- If you have had an allergic reaction to polyethylene glycol (PEG) or polysorbate

*NOTE\*\* There are safeguards in place when you take your vaccine.  
If you have concerns, talk to your physician or pharmacist.*



# What we do not know yet?

- Safety for children under the published ages.
- Need for a booster shot at a later time.
- Timing for a booster shot at a later time.
- Effectiveness against new strains.
- Reinfection rates and timeframe for those that have recovered





# Vaccines Under Development

- In clinical trials, not yet approved for emergency use in the U.S.
  - AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine
  - Janssen COVID-19 vaccine
  - Novavax COVID-19 vaccine



# Common Concerns About the Vaccine

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consists of two overlapping blue rectangular shapes. The left shape is a solid blue bar. The right shape is a blue bar that is slightly offset to the right and has a 3D effect, appearing to be a block with a shadow on its bottom edge.

# Common Concerns – Vaccine Hesitancy

- The vaccine was **developed too quickly**.
- POC were **not involved in the development or research** of the vaccine.
- **Mistrust** of the government.
- Resistance to “**being told what to do**”
- **Fear** of getting or being exposed to COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- Valid fear of **past issues** with the medical community.
- Thought that they **might get COVID-19 regardless**.



# What is Arkansas Being Affected Disproportionately

- More illness
- More severe illness
- More hospitalizations
- More exacerbations of other chronic diseases
- Lack of diligence with mask wearing
- Low vaccination rates
- Lower series completion rates
- Need to work

# COVID-19 Vaccine...Do I Really Need It?



# Resources

- Arkansas Department of Health
  - <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- World Health Organization
  - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>



Questions?

The bottom of the slide features two horizontal blue bars. The first bar is a solid blue rectangle spanning most of the width. The second bar is a 3D-style blue rectangle that starts to the right of the first bar and extends to the right edge of the slide, creating a layered effect.