

COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Guide

*NOTE: These responses may not work in every conversation. Use your best judgement and this as a recommendation for your responses.

Hesitancy

How to respond

Government Mistrust

I hear you. Sometimes our government can let us down. But we've seen time and again that vaccines help end pandemics. Getting our community vaccinated will help us reopen the economy and relieve severely impacted hospitals and communities.

Produced Too Quickly/ Long Term Impact Unknown

People's safety is the priority here- that's why we need to get vaccinated and together combat this pandemic.

The nation's top medical experts have validated that the vaccines are safe and effective. Due to the widespread nature of the disease, vaccine trials were held at hundreds of sites around the world, far more than scientific trials usually have, which let scientists get the data they needed quickly. Steps were not skipped in developing these vaccines. The COVID-19 mRNA vaccines were based on decades of previous scientific research that allowed it to come to market much faster than traditional vaccines.

Covid Hasn't Impacted Me/ Don't Leave My House

I got the vaccine for my community. I got vaccination for those who this pandemic has impacted the most. I'm vaccinated so my community can heal and get their lives back on track. I hope you will join me in supporting our community and helping it heal.

People Have Died Getting The Vaccine

There's a lot of misinformation spreading out there on the internet about this, when actually very few vaccinated people have died and medical experts have no evidence that vaccines were the cause. We now finally have a solution for preventing further deaths from a virus that has taken over half a million people's lives in the US alone. It's our responsibility to our communities to stop people from dying at these rates.

Hesitancy

How to respond

Deportation Fears

There is no legal way that data collected in giving out vaccinations can be used for civil or criminal prosecution, including immigration enforcement. Immigration status should not interfere with your ability to live a healthy life.

General Safety Concerns

For every million doses about 50 serious reactions have happened. The risk of adverse reactions after vaccination are extremely low- especially when you compare it with the likelihood of becoming seriously ill from COVID. Multiple agencies are responsible for consistent oversight of vaccine safety. If unexpected patterns of reactions show up, we have systems in place to quickly identify them and take action.

Pregnancy Concerns

There is currently no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination causes any problems with pregnancy or fertility. Over 30,000 pregnant people have been vaccinated (as of mid-April) and no unexpected outcomes have been observed related to the vaccination.

Black, Indigenous & people of color (BIPOC) medical system distrust

You're right. There are racist medical practices and historic oppression of people of color by the medical establishment. While this distrust won't be repaired overnight, we also know this pandemic is disproportionately impacting BIPOC communities and vaccines are the solution to ending this pandemic.

Cost

Vaccines are being distributed for free, regardless of income or having insurance. We want to make sure everyone can do their part to keep themselves and their communities safe by being vaccinated.

Herd immunity is better than the vaccine

Vaccines only work if people choose to get vaccinated. We only reach the point of herd immunity if enough people get vaccinated. Help our community achieve this by doing your part.