

What You Need to Know About **COVID-19 Vaccines**



The first vaccines for COVID-19 are expected to receive emergency use authorization (EUA) from the FDA in the near future. We expect to start offering them to some of our front-line health care workers shortly after the EUA.

The clinical trials for both vaccines that have applied for EUA **involved more than 70,000 people** in the United States and thousands more worldwide. No serious safety concerns have been reported in these trials.

These vaccines have been shown to work exceptionally well at protecting people from COVID-19. They have an efficacy rate of 94 to 95 percent, which is very high. This means that there were 94 to 95 percent fewer cases of COVID-19 in those who received the vaccine, versus those who received a placebo (shots without any vaccine in them).

The trials have **included at least 25,000 people from population groups most affected by COVID-19**, including Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and older Americans.

The U.S. Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has recommended that health care workers, and residents and staff of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, be offered the vaccine first. We are waiting for additional guidance from New York State and New York City before we know exactly which groups of health care workers we can offer vaccines to first. **We will let you know when you will be offered a vaccine.**

We strongly encourage all eligible Mount Sinai Health System faculty, staff, trainees, and students to get the vaccine when they are offered. However, **at this time, it is not mandatory.**



For more information about the new COVID-19 vaccines, visit <https://www.mountsinai.org/about/covid19/vaccine-information> or use your smartphone to click on this QR code.

If you have additional questions, please send them to COVIDQuestions@mountsinai.org.