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How, When, and Why: Can We Have a Candid Conversation About COVID-19 Vaccines?

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How, When, and Why

Can we have a candid conversation about COVID-19 vaccines?

What does a robust public health response look like?



Our Goals for Today

Help you understand this complex process so that you can:

- Anticipate how you and others make the decision to get vaccinated
- Have conversations with others about COVID-19 vaccines

Hesitancy and Excitement

Reasons people cite for being hesitant (Hamel et al., Jan. 2021; Funk & Tyson, Dec. 2020)

- Side effects
- Prevent me from getting COVID?
- Newness
- Distrust of medical system

Hesitancy and Excitement

Hesitancy more common among:

- Blacks
- Republicans
- ...but willingness is rising

Willingness To Get COVID-19 Vaccine Has Increased Across Racial/Ethnic Groups

If a COVID-19 vaccine was determined to be safe by scientists and available for free to everyone who wanted it, would you...?



SOURCE: KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor (KFF Health Tracking Poll, Nov. 30-Dec. 8, 2020); KFF/The Undefeated Survey on Race and Health (conducted Aug. 20-Sept. 14, 2020). See topline for full question wording. KFF COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor

Hesitancy and Excitement

Reasons people are excited to get vaccinated (Funk & Tyson, Dec. 2020)

• Safety and effectiveness

• ~50 million doses given in U.S. • More than 10% of population

% of U.S. adults who say that ...

They have __ of confidence that the research and development process in the U.S. will produce a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19











DOMINIQUE DeMOE / Staff Artist



DOMINIQUE DeMOE / Staff Artist

Known Side Effects

COVID-19

• Loss of smell

- Lung damage
- Heart damage
- Kidney damage
- Psychiatric conditions
- Diabetes (?)
- Death

COVID Vaccine

- Pain at injection site
- Fever
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain/aches
- Serious allergic reaction (11 cases in one million doses, or incidence of 0.0011%)

What about the other vaccines?

• More vaccines coming down the pipeline

- AstraZeneca/Oxford (76%)
- Johnson & Johnson/Janssen (~85%)
- More
- These are *great* vaccines!
- Will reduce severe disease

Vaccine Distribution

What the @\$%& happened?

Goals of U.S. PH Institutions

- Prevent epidemics and the spread of disease
- Protect against environmental hazards
- Prevent injuries
- Promote and encourage health behaviors
- Respond to disasters, assist in recovery
- Ensure quality and accessibility of health services

THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the **Essential Public Health** Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.

Assurance



Public Health Systems



Components of the Public Health System





Governmental Public Health

State and Local Health Departments

Retain the primary responsibility for health under the US Constitution



* Number based on 2010 National Profile of Local Health Departments (NACCHO, 2011) ** Numbers cited from ASTHO, Profile of State Public Health, Volume Two, 2011

Public Health Infrastructure

Accreditation Activity as of November 18, 2020



State Health Agency Funding, by Source

(n=48)



Most states spend less than \$100 per person on public health

Annual public health expenditures per resident by state-level agencies.



Expenditures are inflation-adjusted to constant 2019 dollars and reflect a 2016–18 average. Data includes transfers to local health departments. Sources: State Health Expenditure Dataset, U.S. Census Bureau

Map data: Tilegrams/NPR / Graphic: Hannah Recht/KHN, Francois Duckett/AP



Federal Prevention and Public Health Fund faces shortfalls



COVID-19 VACCINATION PHASES IN PENNSYLVANIA

Phase 1A

Long-term care facility residents

Health care personnel including, but not limited to: Emergency medical service personnel Nurses Nursing assistants Physicians Dentists Dental hygienists Chiropractors Therapists Phlebotomists Pharmacists Technicians Pharmacy technicians Health professions students and trainees Direct support professionals Clinical personnel in school settings or correctional facilities Contractual HCP not directly employed by health care facility Persons not directly involved in patient care but potentially exposed to infectious material

People age 65 and older
 People age 16-64
 with high risk conditions
 causing increased risk for
 severe disease

Phase 1B

 People in congregate settings not otherwise specified as LTCF and persons receiving home and community-based services
 First responders
 Correctional officers and other workers serving people in

serving people in congregate care settings not included in Phase 1A

• Food and agricultural workers

• U.S. Postal Service workers

 Manufacturing workers

Grocery store workers
Education workers

Clergy and other
 essential support for
 houses of worship
 Public transit workers

• Individuals caring for children or adults in early childhood and adult day programs

Phase 1C

Essential workers in these sectors: • Transportation and logistics

Water and wastewater

Food service
Housing construction

• Finance, including bank tellers

Information technology
 Communications

- Energy, including nuclear reactors
- Legal services
 Federal, state, county and local government workers, including county election workers, elected officials and members of the judiciary and their

staff • Media

Public safety
Public health workers

Phase 2

• All individuals not previously covered who are 16 and older and do not have a contraindication to the vaccine (note that at this time, only the Pfizer-BioNTech product is approved for those age 16 and 17)

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Updated: 1/19/2021

Other Vaccine Roll Out Challenges

- Supply shortages
- Lack of federal support/guidance/\$\$\$\$
- Type of vaccine requires extreme cold so hospitals first line distributors
- No universal healthcare infrastructure
- Those not aligned with systems cannot navigate the technology

WE WERE NOT READY

Why mask and distance after vaccination?

Multiple Layers Improve Success

The Swiss Cheese Respiratory Pandemic Defense recognizes that no single intervention is perfect at preventing the spread of the coronavirus. Each intervention (layer) has holes.



Source: Adapted from Ian M. Mackay (virologydownunder.com) and James T. Reason. Illustration by Rose Wong

Who will get vaccinated?

Many of those who would not get a COVID-19 vaccine say they could change their mind

If a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 were available today, % of U.S. adults who say ...

18%	21	31	29
Definitely	Probably	Probably	Definitely
They would NOT get the vaccine 39%		They would get the vaccine	

% among this group who say once others start getting a coronavirus vaccine and there is more information ...



Approach communication with **compassion**, **understanding**

Avoid confrontation

First, ask questions... (people's reasons for vaccine hesitancy differ)

- Who do you **trust** for information?
 - Find recommendations and info from someone person trusts, identifies with, and has expertise
 - False information often sensationalizes and lacks data; Accurate information often presents a lot of data





CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION





First, ask questions... (people's reasons for vaccine hesitancy differ)

- What **information** would help you make your decision?
 - Safety and efficacy: Data from thousands and thousands of people has found the vaccines to be safe and effective. 50 million doses given now.
 - **Research and development process:** Didn't cut corners. Cut the red tape.
 - For those who don't believe COVID to be severe, vaccine one tool to lower rates, speed reopening

First, ask questions... (people's reasons for vaccine hesitancy differ)

- What are the **benefits/pros** of getting vaccinated **for you**?
 - Less likely to get sick
 - Peace of mind
 - Travel, spend time with others (with less risk)

Second, help people get an appointment...

- When and where can they get vaccinated?
- How can they make an appointment?
- Help them register for an appointment and help them get there (transportation)



Do you know someone who is hesitant?

- Let's brainstorm!
- Picture someone in your life you want to talk to about COVID-19 vaccines
- Consider what you might ask and what you might say
- Discuss with your group

Resources

- Finding a Vaccine Site
- <u>PA Registry</u>
 <u>Philly Registry</u>

Helping Your Community

- <u>Philadelphia</u> <u>Medical Reserve</u> <u>Corps (MRC)</u>
- Ready PA
- <u>SERVPA</u>

Trusted Sources

- CDC <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-</u> <u>19/index.html</u>
- Pennsylvania Department of Health <u>https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/</u> <u>coronavirus/Vaccine/Pages/Vaccine.aspx</u>

• Philadelphia Department of Health <u>https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavir</u> <u>us-disease-2019-covid-19/vaccines/about-covid-</u> <u>19-vaccine/</u>

Bonus Slides



Credit: NIAID

What is Herd Immunity?

When most of a population is immune to an infectious disease, this provides indirect protection to those who are not immune to the disease

What are these new COVID variants?

- Viruses generate mutations as long as they are replicating
- Concern about variants identified in the UK, South Africa, Brazil and USA
- Mutations in spike make them able to dodge immune system to an extent
- Current vaccines are still effective, but somewhat reduced (from super excellent to excellent)
- New variants require increased masking, distancing, and protection

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100% of the population



100% of the population



Time \rightarrow





 $\text{Time} \rightarrow$



