

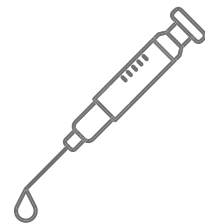


WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is also known as Coronavirus. It is a virus that spreads quickly. People around the world are sick from this disease.

WHAT IS A VACCINE?

A vaccine is medicine that usually comes in a shot. A vaccine protects you from getting sick. Scientists worked hard to create a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine. Many companies created different vaccines that will protect us from the virus. Most vaccines require 2 shots. You get the second shot 3 to 4 weeks after the first one. It is important to take both shots for the vaccine to work. **The vaccine is free.**



WHO CAN GET THE VACCINE IN MARYLAND NOW?

It takes time to make enough vaccine for everybody. Governor Larry Hogan worked with the Maryland Department of Health to create a plan for vaccine distribution. Health care workers, first responders, and long-term care facility residents and workers will receive the COVID-19 vaccine first.



Those at highest risk for getting COVID-19 will get the vaccine in the first phase of Maryland's vaccine distribution plan. Many people are advocating to include people with developmental disabilities and direct support professionals in Phase 1.

Learn more about the plan here:

<https://governor.maryland.gov/2020/10/20/governor-hogan-announces-marylands-covid-19-vaccination-plan/>



WHY SHOULD I GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE?



The vaccine is important to help stop the spread of COVID-19.



It is a safe way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

AFTER I GET THE VACCINE WILL I STILL HAVE TO WEAR A MASK?



YES! You will still need to wear a mask and social distance. The vaccine takes time to protect you, and it will take time for most people to get the vaccine.