

# COVID VACCINE AND PREGNANCY

## Is it safe to give the vaccine to pregnant women?

We have no data on the safety of the COVID vaccine in pregnancy. Unfortunately, pregnant women were excluded in the current vaccine trials.

The vaccines currently available are mRNA vaccines, which do not contain a live virus but instead induce an immune response using viral mRNA. These are found to be 95% effective. The *theoretical* risk of fetal harm from mRNA\* vaccines is low, but we have NO evidence to prove this.

*\*mRNA vaccines cannot alter human DNA; therefore, the vaccine cannot cause genetic changes in a fetus or infant.*

No data about breastfeeding mom's is available either, but the *theoretical* risk is even lower.

It is recommended that a pregnant patient and her doctor engage in shared decision-making regarding her receipt of the vaccine, and that decision should take into consideration what we already know about the vaccine safety, risks to pregnant women from the COVID-19 infection, and a woman's individual risk for infection and severe disease. Review with your provider at your next visit or call to schedule a virtual appointment to discuss your individual clinical need.

*Printed as of December 2020. New data may be reported changing recommendations in the future.*