

HOW THE mRNA VACCINES WORK TO PREVENT COVID-19



The 1st vaccine dose goes into your arm muscle. The vaccine is made up of mRNA wrapped up in a protective bubble.

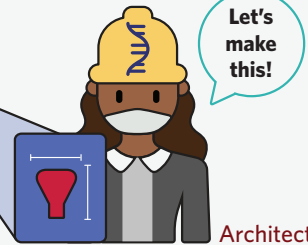
Dose #1



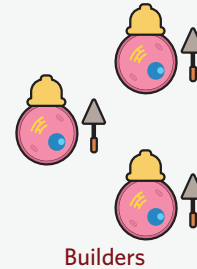
The vaccine does not contain coronavirus and cannot give you COVID-19.

Think of the mRNA as an architect at a building site.

It gives your cells instructions on how to make the spike protein that covers the coronavirus.



Architect



Builders

Your body already has everything it needs to build the spike protein, so your cells start building.



Builder

The spike protein cannot give you COVID-19.



Dose #2

The 2nd dose is the same, and helps your body get stronger to be even more prepared to fight.

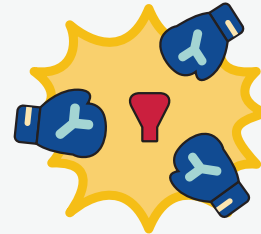
Your immune system sees the unfamiliar spike protein and sounds an alarm.

White blood cells (WBC) are like coaches within your immune system.

They make antibodies and learn to recognize and attack the spike protein.



Coach

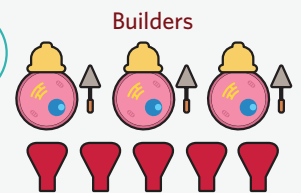


Antibodies Fighting the Spike Protein

The architect's job is done, so the mRNA disappears from the body.

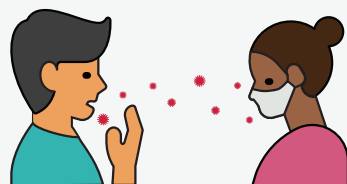


Architect

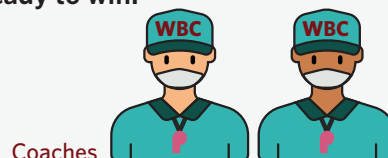


Builders

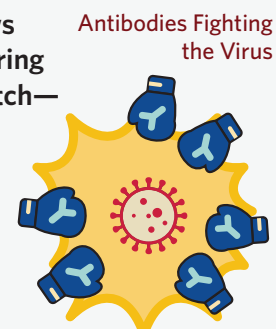
If you are later exposed to someone with COVID-19...



Your immune system already knows how to fight the spike protein covering the coronavirus. This is the big match—and your body is strong, fast, and ready to win!



Coaches



Antibodies Fighting the Virus

A vaccine teaches your body how to fight if you are exposed to a virus.

After vaccination, your body is prepared to quickly protect you.