

"Vaccine Uncertainty - Fertility Adult Social Care Employees". – Webinar 23rd February 2021

Questions and Answers – webinar video link :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uhtmj2F5hGQ&feature=youtu.be>

Question	Answer
<p>When the vaccine was first being rolled out, it was stated that woman who are of childbearing age should not have the vaccine. Why was this initially stated if it is in fact untrue?</p>	<p>This was initially stated, as it is a fact, that pregnant women are not usually included in trials, unless the trial is specific to that group. There are ongoing trials in pregnant women, and this should give us more data soon. Data has been collected from people who did sign up to the trials and have since become pregnant, and we did not see any problems within this group.</p>
<p>Has it been noted that it has not caused infertility because the vaccine has only been rolled out within the past month or so, and there is no data at present to show that it does?</p>	<p>There are many other vaccines that have been used for many decades, and millions of people have received these vaccines, and they have not caused infertility. The COVID vaccines are similar, so we do not think that a similarly working vaccine will cause infertility.</p>
<p>How true is the Myth that stated the vaccine changes your DNA? How long has the research regarding these vaccines been done, to find out the observed conclusions for DNA?</p>	<p>Vaccines are incapable of changing our DNA in any way. In 2 weeks, the vaccine is broken down completely and does not come in contact with our DNA. There have been decades of research undertaken, vaccines are incapable of changing our DNA in any way.</p>
<p>How long should I wait until I start my IVF after the second dose of the vaccine?</p>	<p>You do not need to wait for any length of time; however, it is suggested that you leave 3-4 days between having the vaccination and attending your fertility appointment, so that any symptoms, such as fever, might be attributed correctly to the vaccine or the fertility treatment procedure.</p>
<p>I have had COVID but am still uncertain about having the vaccine. I am currently having fertility support. Everything I read says not to have it.</p>	<p>If you have any concerns/uncertainties, talk to the health professionals that are providing you with your fertility support.</p>
<p>When staff at our organisation have attended for the vaccine, they are asked if they are pregnant or trying to get pregnant why is this?</p>	<p>This is for data collection purposes. It is a fact that pregnant women are not usually included in trials. Ongoing trials in pregnant women should give us more data soon. We need this data to be included in our studies, in order to look for any possible side effects and encourage other people who are pregnant that it is safe.</p>

<p>Is there a timeframe to get pregnant after you have had the second dose, or can you try right after the vaccine?</p>	<p>There is no time frame, you can try right after the vaccine. There is no problem at all.</p>
<p>Isn't the Pfizer vaccine, new vaccine technology, so is it preferable to have the AstraZeneca vaccine?</p>	<p>Both vaccines are very effective. Looking at scientific facts and data there is no reason to question or doubt whether one will be better in pregnancy or affecting fertility than the other.</p>
<p>How will we know that the vaccine will not impact the new-born baby in a negative way? i.e., causing any other health concerns.</p>	<p>If you find out that you are pregnant after you have had the vaccine, do not worry. The vaccines do not contain organisms that multiply in the body, so they cannot cause COVID-19 infection in your unborn baby. As they have done for other vaccines, PHE is establishing a monitoring system to follow up women who are vaccinated in pregnancy to help reassure women as time goes on.</p>
<p>If you fall pregnant after the 1st vaccine, should you have the 2nd dose?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>What complications have you seen in pregnant women who have tested positive to COVID over the past year?</p>	<p>Studies have shown that hospital admission and severe illness may be more common in pregnant women (compared to those not pregnant) especially those in the third trimester of pregnancy, and that preterm birth is more likely (compared to pregnant women without COVID-19). Pregnant women with underlying medical conditions are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID.</p>
<p>My husband is against the vaccine for his fertility concerns. Is there any male research?</p>	<p>Research has included both male and female participants and there is no evidence that there are any fertility concerns for both men and women.</p>
<p>Should the Pfizer vaccine be given to under 18s?</p>	<p>Yes, they should have the Pfizer vaccine because the Astra Zeneca vaccine is only licenced for over 18s.</p>