

# COVID-19 Vaccine Info

NYU Langone Health  
Dept Environmental Medicine  
Generations for Garfield  
shannon.doherty@nyulangone.org



## A tale of 2 (FDA-approved) vaccines: Pfizer vs. Moderna

### Pfizer

- mRNA technology
- 95% effective
- 2 doses given 21 days apart
- Approved for use in people over the age of 16 years

### Moderna

- mRNA technology
- 94.5% effective
- 2 doses given 28 days apart
- Approved for use in people over 18 years of age



## Facts about mRNA vaccines

mRNA teaches our cells how to make proteins

- This protein triggers an immune response inside our bodies that produces antibodies. These antibodies are what protects us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

They cannot give someone COVID-19

- mRNA vaccines do not use live virus that cause COVID-19

They do not affect or interact with a person's DNA

- mRNA does not enter the area of the cell where the DNA (genetic material) is kept
- The cell breaks down and gets rid of the mRNA after it is finished using the 'message' or instructions for the protein



## Most commonly reported side effects

- Injection site reaction
- Chills
- Fatigue or tiredness
- Joint pain
- Headache
- Fever
- Muscle Pain