

# Why Vaccines Matter

Vaccination is one of our most powerful weapons against disease worldwide. Before we had vaccines, the only way to become immune to an illness was to get the illness. That could be serious — or even deadly.

Vaccines are an important step to protecting your employees and your community from disease by building up immunity with less risk. As we have seen with COVID-19, when one person catches a disease, it could spread to many people. To achieve herd immunity in a community, most people need to be vaccinated so the disease cannot spread through them.



## Vaccine safety

Studies have shown that vaccines are safe. Still, misconceptions about vaccinations have been steadily rising in the United States, and a growing number of people are choosing not to vaccinate themselves or their children.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorizes and approves vaccines in the U.S. It only does so for vaccines that meet its strict safety and effectiveness standards. This includes testing the vaccine by giving it to tens of thousands of volunteers.

## Informing your staff

We understand that the COVID-19 vaccine can be a delicate subject for some employees, but because vaccines are so important, consider discussing them with your staff. You might encourage your employees to seek immunization.

[Here is an informational flyer](#) that can help you and your employees understand the development and safety of the available COVID-19 vaccines.

Many vaccinations are covered as preventive care, and the federal CARES Act requires most health plans to cover the COVID-19 vaccine and its administration at \$0 member cost share during the national public health emergency. If you or your employees have any questions about immunization, talking to a doctor or a trusted provider is a great place to start.

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The health and well-being of your employees is more important than ever. We're here to offer guidance and support. For more information contact HealthLink at [Sales-AcctMgmt@healthlink.com](mailto:Sales-AcctMgmt@healthlink.com).

*CDC.gov. Vaccines: the Basics (accessed December 2020): [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).*