

PHILLY WANTS TO KNOW!



Dr. Rotonya M. Carr, MD, FACP
Associate Professor of Medicine, University of
Pennsylvania, Division of Gastroenterology

ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE.



“**How was a safe COVID-19 vaccine developed so quickly?”**”

Dr. Carr explains how:

Safe, effective vaccines were developed quickly for several reasons. Scientists across the world were given virtually unlimited research budgets, and they worked together sharing data, instead of competing. They also had a huge head start in that they'd been studying these kinds of viruses for years. And finally, thousands of people volunteered for the vaccine trials so it didn't take years to recruit them.



“**Were people of color involved in developing the COVID-19 vaccines?”**”

Yes, they were, says Dr. Carr:

Black and Latino scientists were involved at every level of safety and efficacy review, including making decisions and recommendations as members of the National Institutes of Health panels. They also ensured that our four historically black medical schools were selected as sites to trial the vaccine to include a more diverse population in early testing. Black and Latino scientists also continue to be part of the ongoing safety monitoring of the vaccines.



“**Should I wait and see what happens to the people who get the COVID-19 vaccine?”**”

No! Please don't wait, says Dr. Carr:

Please don't wait another day to get vaccinated. COVID-19 is still extremely dangerous and has not gone away. If you're concerned about possible long-term side effects, it's been over a year now since the first 30,000+ volunteers were given the vaccine. Doctors have been monitoring them ever since and have seen no long-term side effects. Short-term side effects have also been mild, from nothing to mild flu-like symptoms that go away quickly. But again, the reason to get vaccinated today is that vaccinated people are avoiding the misery, hospitalizations, and deaths from COVID-19. So please protect yourself and your family by not waiting another day.

Get vaccinated today.

Protect yourself and your family from the dangers of COVID-19.

Find a vaccination site near you at [PHILA.GOV/VACCINE](https://phila.gov/vaccine), call **311**, or **SCAN THIS CODE:**



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Dr. Maribel Hernández, MD, FACC
Cardiology-Clinical Electrophysiology
Lankenau Medical Center, Main Line Health System

**ANSWERS YOUR
QUESTIONS ABOUT THE
COVID-19 VACCINE.**

**VAX UP,
PHILLY!**



**“ How can we be sure the
COVID-19 vaccine is safe? ”**

Dr. Hernández explains how:

I assure my patients that the highest scientific standards were followed at all times. Never before have so many scientists, from so many diverse backgrounds, worked together to review the safety of a vaccine. It's also comforting to know that plenty of people – over 100 million in the U.S. and over 500,000 in Philadelphia – have been fully vaccinated safely. And the vaccine is working. Vaccinated people are avoiding the misery, hospitalizations, and deaths from COVID-19.



**“ Do I need to be a U.S. citizen or have
insurance to get the COVID-19 vaccine? ”**

No! You do not, explains Dr. Hernández:

You do not need to be a U.S. citizen and you do not need to have insurance. When you come for your vaccine, you will not be asked anything about your immigration status and you will not be asked to provide any private information, such as a Social Security number. The vaccine is given at no cost to you. However, if you do have medical insurance, please bring your card.

Get vaccinated today.

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