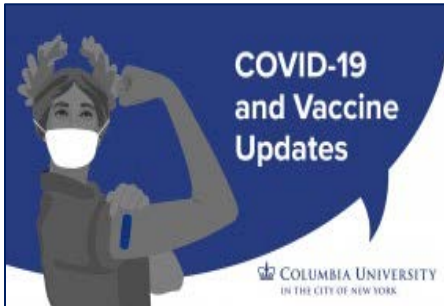


## So You've Been Vaccinated...Now What?!?



At long last, effective vaccines against COVID-19 have been approved, and thousands of eligible Columbia University faculty and staff, have already been vaccinated. More and more individuals and groups are becoming eligible as vaccine supplies increase. All members of the Columbia University community are strongly encouraged to receive a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as they are eligible. This Fact Sheet provides information on changes to personal and community public health and safety protocols for vaccinated personnel.



### Is the Vaccine Safe?

Yes! Although on a highly accelerated timeline, all of the currently approved vaccines against COVID-19 have undergone extensive safety and efficacy testing. Serious side effects are extraordinarily rare, and common side effects, when they occur, are generally mild and short-lived, including pain at the injection site, low grade fever and nausea.

### What Happens on Campus Once I'm Vaccinated?

Keep up the good work! ALL personnel on Columbia campuses, including those who have been vaccinated, must follow public health guidance and University regulations. Continue to:

- Wear a face covering
- Practice physical distancing
- Follow testing protocols
- Avoid non-essential travel

These practices remain **especially important** during activities such as the **use of shared breakrooms** while eating and drinking.

- Perform hand hygiene before and after you eat
- Wear a well-fitting mask that covers your mouth and nose when not eating or drinking
- Stay >6 feet away from others when your mask is removed to eat or drink
- Minimize the amount of time that you remove your mask to eat and drink when others are present. Keep the masks on and avoid crowded spaces!

**Why?** While the COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to be highly effective at preventing serious illness, it is not yet well understood whether the vaccines also prevent transmission. It is possible that vaccinated individuals can still transmit COVID-19 to unprotected persons. Since there are still significant portions of the population who have yet to receive a vaccine, these measures offer the best ongoing protection.

### The Good News\*

Fully vaccinated people, while at home (outside of work), may:

- Visit, indoors, with other vaccinated personnel, without the need for a face covering
- Visit with unvaccinated people from a single household, who are at low risk for severe COVID-19, indoors, without the need for a face covering or physical distancing
- Refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if asymptomatic

(\* - Healthcare providers should speak to their supervisor as different requirements may apply)