Frequently Asked Questions
Once I have 2 doses of vaccine, do I still need to wear a mask?

YES!

- As experts continue to study the virus and learn more, updated recommendations will follow - for now, it is safest to keep wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing
- Even when vaccinated, you can still contract SARS-CoV-2
How long does it take for the vaccine to work?

- Both vaccines reach full effectiveness about 2 weeks after the second dose.
- It is possible you can have some protection after just one dose, but neither vaccine was studied this way and are not intended as single dose.
- As noted earlier, it is unknown how long the protection will last (i.e. will we need this annually, like the flu shot).
Can I get the virus from the vaccine?

NO!

- mRNA vaccines **do not use** the live virus that causes COVID-19
- mRNA never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA (genetic material) is kept
- The cell breaks down and gets rid of the mRNA soon after it is finished using the instructions
Are these the only vaccine options?

YES!

In the U.S., **at this time**, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are the only *authorized* vaccines. However, this is what is “on the horizon:”

1. Single Shot Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine (Johnson & Johnson) - currently called “Ensemble”; from a statement on the J & J website - *The Company intends to file for U.S. Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) in early February and expects to have product available to ship immediately following authorization*
2. AstraZeneca - approved for use in adults in the EU (European Union) on Friday, Jan 29th
3. Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine (*PREVENT-19*) - in an article dated Jan 28th, it was noted...*Significant progress on PREVENT-19 Clinical Trial in US and Mexico...targeted enrollment is expected to complete in the first half of February*