## **Mass General Brigham**

# Women & Men's Fertility and the COVID-19 Vaccines



### Will the vaccine affect menstrual periods?

Stress, changes in weight and exercise, and other major lifestyle changes can affect periods. All of those changes are common during the COVID-19 pandemic. Studies have also shown that some women who had COVID-19 experienced changes in the duration and flow of their menstrual cycles.

Recently, some people have reported changes in their period after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. People have reported changes in duration, flow, and symptoms such as pain. The NIH is funding studies to better understand these changes.

This <u>does not mean</u> there is any link to miscarriages. There is now data from many women who have been vaccinated which suggests there is not an increased risk of pregnancy loss.

### Do the COVID-19 vaccines cause infertility?

Right now, follow-up data from vaccinated individuals of reproductive age as well as studies on patients before and after vaccination do not show any evidence that the COVID-19 vaccines cause fertility problems (problems trying to get pregnant) in women or men.

### Are there studies about COVID-19 vaccines and women's fertility?

To date, no one in COVID-19 vaccine studies has shown any signs of infertility as a result of the vaccine. Several women became pregnant while participating in the COVID-19 vaccine studies. These patients were followed very closely and the vaccination against COVID-19 did not increase the risk of infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, or any other pregnancy complications.

The CDC V-safe program is monitoring thousands of people of reproductive age and pregnant who have received the COVID-19 vaccines. Follow-up of these individuals has not demonstrated an increased risk of infertility, miscarriage, birth defects, or any other pregnancy complications.

### Are there studies about COVID-19 vaccines and men's fertility?

There is no data that COVID-19 vaccination affects men's fertility. There have been several studies that compared men's sperm counts both before and after receiving COVID-19 vaccines. No significant changes were noted. There has been no increase in miscarriage rates or birth defects in pregnancies where the male partner had been vaccinated.