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.