

I'M GETTING VACCINATED FOR COVID BECAUSE...

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I thought I would pose the question, “Why are you getting the COVID vaccine?” to my family and co-workers. I was surprised by the variety of responses I received; which are listed below:

Because my wife said I had to take it. No seriously. It was a no brainer to me, just like the vaccines we received as a child in my mind.

I was skeptical at first. Then: To stay healthy; I don't like being sick. To keep my family healthy. To protect my patients; at-risk population. To contribute to the greater good of society; I believe community functions better when we make a difference where we can. To be a role model; someone has to go first and prove safety, so others will follow. I'm an early adaptor.

I would say, I want this pandemic to end. I want a return to normal for families and businesses. I think the vaccinations are the only way to achieve this and I trust the science. I think getting vaccinated is our public duty; and I hope the vaccines are available worldwide as soon as possible.

I received the COVID vaccine to protect my family, co-workers and friends.

My decision was two-fold. I have an autoimmune disease and my rheumatologist advised getting the vaccine. I also feel that I chose all the other available options to prevent/treat illness or infections ; and the vaccine should be looked at as a positive step towards normalcy.

For me, I suppose it was a combination of things: One being I wanted to protect my family and not bring anything to them and cause them to get ill. I wouldn't have been able to stand it if I might've caused them to get sick and possibly lose their life. There are so many people who are afraid of the vaccine and/or just refuse to get the vaccine; and I felt like if I could help show others to trust the science and be an example to others that it's ok to get it, then that's what I should do when I got the opportunity to receive the vaccine. I also think getting the vaccine (as well as wearing a mask) is me loving thy neighbor, just like God expects us to do. Lastly, and maybe selfishly I got it for myself and my own peace of mind. COVID has caused me to have anxiety this past year (which was hard for me to admit, but I needed to), as it has with others as well. The fear of getting it and possibly dying or my husband and kids dying terrified me. My doctor told me once I could get the vaccine that I needed to because it would hopefully help with some of my anxiety I was having with the pandemic. I had already planned on getting it, but when she explained it to me that way it was even more of a reason to do so.

To do my part in putting the world back to semi-normalcy and so I can see my friends and loved ones safely.

For me, why is not the correct question, rather it should be, who are you getting the COVID vaccine for? I received the vaccine for my son, who is 31 and on the liver transplant list. I didn't get the vaccine for myself.

Why are you getting the COVID vaccine?