YOU CAN STOP COVID-19
By getting the vaccine

IT'S SAFE
The FDA and a New York State independent advisory task force approved the vaccines after careful review and testing. More than 73,000 people participated in the clinical trials. Nearly one in three participants were people of color.

IT WORKS
The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are nearly 95% effective at preventing COVID-19 after two doses. Five percent of study participants who were vaccinated developed COVID-19, but they had only mild symptoms.

IT'S FREE
The COVID-19 vaccines are provided at no cost to you. Some providers may charge a fee for giving the shot, which will be covered by your insurance. If you don’t have insurance, there is still no cost to you.

What Black and Latino people should know

Safe for Black and Brown folks
About 30% of participants in vaccine studies were people of color. Participation rates were: 13% Latino, 10% Black, 6% Asian and 1% Native American.

Endorsed by Black physicians
The National Medical Association and the Black Physicians Network of Greater Rochester reviewed the vaccines’ safety and support their use.

Blacks and Latinos played key role
Black researcher Dr. Kizzmekia Corbett led work on the Moderna vaccine. In our region, Dr. Angela Branche, a black doctor and scientist, is one of the researchers leading studies of COVID vaccines. Many Black and Latino residents from our region are participating in clinical trials.

Immigration status is not collected
If you get vaccinated, you will never have to give any information to the government that could be used to identify your immigration status.

What everyone should know
About the COVID-19 vaccines

No major side effects
As with all vaccinations, some people may have muscle aches, fever, tiredness and other mild symptoms for a day or two. These are signs that the immune system is building up protection to the disease. Rarely, people can have an allergic reaction to any vaccine immediately after the shot. This is why all vaccinations are given by trained health care professionals and why you must wait at least 15 minutes after the shot.

No virus in the vaccine
The vaccine temporarily prompts the body to make a harmless protein that looks like a COVID-19 protein. When our body encounters this protein, it creates the antibody defenses we need to fight COVID-19 if—and when—the real germ attacks.

Scientists had a head start
Although the COVID-19 vaccines were developed quickly, they were built upon years of work developing vaccines for similar viruses.

Thorough & successful testing
COVID-19 vaccines met the same safety standards as all other vaccines. Because COVID-19 was so widespread, researchers could quickly see that the vaccines provided protection.

It takes two doses
With the current vaccines, you need a second dose to be fully immune to COVID-19. Your second shot will be scheduled for a few weeks after your first dose and will be given at the same location.

The vaccines cannot change your genes
The COVID-19 vaccines use mRNA, which act as instructions for our bodies. The mRNA cannot change a person's DNA or genetic code. The body breaks down the mRNA once it uses it.

Mask, distance, wash hands
Until the spread of the virus has stopped, continue to follow these safety precautions.

Had COVID? Get vaccinated
Reinfection with COVID-19 is possible, and we don’t know how long a person is protected after recovering from COVID-19.

No positive COVID-19 test
The vaccine will not cause you to test positive on tests that check for a current infection.

More information online
Search for: Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines (cdc.gov) and COVID-19 Vaccine: Get the Facts (ny.gov)

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New York State Department of State, University of Massachusetts Medical School and Wake County North Carolina.