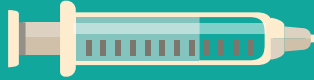


# HOW DOES THE mRNA COVID-19 VACCINE WORK?



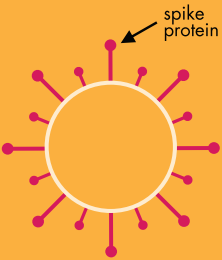
The Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines.



How to make a spike protein



mRNA is a harmless genetic material that instructs the body to make certain proteins.

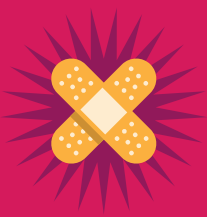
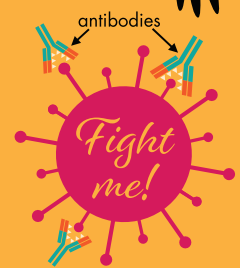


The mRNA in the vaccine instructs the body to make copies of **spike proteins** — the projections on the surface of the coronavirus. These spike proteins are what attach to other cells and infect them.

The spike proteins, by themselves, do not cause coronavirus.  
**THE VACCINE DOES NOT CAUSE COVID.**

The newly created spike proteins trigger an immune response in our bodies. The spike proteins aren't welcome. Our bodies produce specific **antibodies** to fight them.

In this way, the mRNA vaccine is teaching our bodies to recognize and defend against any future encounter with the actual coronavirus.



The mild side-effects we may experience are signs that the vaccine is working and teaching our bodies to fight.

The vaccine **DOES NOT CONTAIN METAL OR MICROCHIPS.**

The mRNA degrades and disappears from the body in a short time. It never enters the cells and **DOES NOT ALTER THE BODY'S DNA.**



Information adapted from the NYC Health/COVID-19:Vaccine webpage.

