COVID-19 vaccine: It’s our turn to roll up our sleeves and get vaccinated!

It’s hard to imagine a time when we didn’t know COVID-19 existed. Here in North Dakota we have been hit particularly hard by this virus with 1 in 410 North Dakotans dying and 1 in 120 being hospitalized from COVID-19. The impact of COVID-19 on our lives, our work, our activities, and our freedom has affected us all.

You’ve kept our company and industry running through one of the most challenging times in our history. The responsibility is ours, as a community, to help stop this virus. Now we have a safe and effective tool to help us do that - **COVID-19 vaccines**.

***It’s time to take control of the virus.***

It is going to take everyone – We all need to step up to beat COVID-19. We ask you to join us in protecting our community by getting vaccinated.

The Delta variant of COVID-19 has changed the game and with the recent emergence of the Omicron variant, it is more important than ever to get vaccinated. Delta (and likely Omicron) causes more infections and spreads faster than early forms of COVID-19. Over 70% of Americans have received at least one dose of COVID vaccine – let’s join the majority and get vaccinated! By choosing to get vaccinated, you reduce your likelihood of spreading the virus to others - protecting your friends, loved ones, and coworkers from COVID-19. Here are some key points about COVID-19 vaccination:

* All COVID-19 vaccines available in the United States are both ***safe*** and ***effective.***
* Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history.
* The benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine far outweigh the risk of contracting COVID-19.
* Virtually all COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths are among those who are unvaccinated.
* ***If you have previously had COVID-19, getting vaccinated could provide an added boost to your immune system*** – recent research found that those who were unvaccinated had 2.34x greater chance of reinfection compared to those who are fully vaccinated.
* The most common side effects are pain at the site of injection, feeling tired, headache, body aches, chills, and fever.
* ***Getting vaccinated is the best way to get back to the things we love to do safely***.

We all want to feel safe at work and in our community and to be able to get back to the things we love to do so ***safely***. With the vaccine, we can do something about it. Let’s take back control and get vaccinated.

We all play a part in this effort and you are key. Please sign up to get your COVID-19 vaccination at {INSERT INFORMATION ABOUT WHERE TO GET VACCINATED}.

If you have questions about vaccination clinics in {INSERT VACCINE CLINIC INFORMATION}, please contact {INSERT NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION}.

If you want to know more about COVID-19 vaccines, visit the [NDDoH website](https://www.health.nd.gov/covid-19-vaccine-information).