

7 Reasons older adults should get the COVID vaccine



- Older adults are bearing the brunt of severe disease from COVID – especially those living in long term care facilities; these environments are high risk, because they house vulnerable populations and high-density accommodation. Vaccinating staff could prevent the virus getting in and vaccinating residents will minimize the consequences if it does.
- If you prioritize vaccinating older at risk populations, it directly reduces severe disease spread and hospitalizations

- Even though older people have weaker immune responses to vaccines it is still more effective in preventing disease and transmission than not getting vaccinated
- Although a potential vaccine cannot be 100% effective in preventing infection, it could still reduce the severity of the disease and the 97% efficacy rate of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are extraordinarily high and the reported side effect profile is remarkably low.
- A modest improvement in cases or severe disease in older people could have a big impact on the overall burden of disease and death.
- Getting Covid is far more dangerous than getting the vaccine
- Vaccine immunizations will take time to roll out which is why the elderly should have top priority. In the meantime, public health measures such as rigorous testing, hand-washing, mask-wearing and social distancing will remain important for some time

