Talking to People About COVID-19 Vaccines

Listen respectfully, share your story and give people space to make decisions.

- **Respect** each person’s right to decide whether to get vaccinated.
- **Avoid** arguments, expressing judgment or telling people they should get vaccinated.
- **Pause** to give people space to share their concerns.
- **Discuss** both the science and their personal concerns.
- **Invite** people to talk again if they are not ready to get vaccinated.

1. **Start** the conversation.
   - Have you gotten a COVID-19 vaccine yet?

2. **Invite people to share any concerns** they may have.
   - How are you feeling about getting a COVID-19 vaccine?
   - What would make it easier for you to get a vaccine?

3. **Acknowledge** any concerns or past negative experiences they bring up.
   - I hear your concerns about...

4. **Ask if you can share your story** or what you know.
   - Can I tell you what I have learned about the vaccines?

5. **Provide** accurate scientific information.
   Let people know about the data, resources, and materials at [nyc.gov/covidvaccine](http://nyc.gov/covidvaccine), such as:
   - [The Truth About COVID-19 Vaccines](http://on.nyc.gov/truth-vaccines)
6. Share your own experience about getting a vaccine.
   • I decided the risks from getting a vaccine were low compared to the risk of getting COVID-19 and bringing it home to my family.
   • My side effects were...

7. Find common ground by identifying what is important to them and the priorities you share.
   • It sounds like we both want to protect our families.

8. Offer assistance to people who want to get vaccinated.
   • Can I help you find a time and place to get vaccinated?

COVID-19 vaccines are available in New York City to anyone age 12 and older. Visit nyc.gov/vaccinefinder or call 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692) to find a site near you. To get the vaccine at home, call 877-VAX-4NYC or fill out the form at nyc.gov/homevaccine for an appointment.

The NYC Health Department may change recommendations as the situation evolves.
10.4.21