

## PREGNANT OR THINKING ABOUT PREGNANCY?

# 6 REASONS TO GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE



### COVID-19 can be serious for you and your baby

You are more likely to get very unwell and need treatment in intensive care than a woman who is not pregnant. COVID-19 in pregnancy can cause premature labour or stillbirth. Getting the vaccine helps protect you and your baby from serious illness and hospitalisation from COVID-19.



### The safety of the vaccine

Hundreds of thousands of pregnant women have safely received COVID-19 vaccines. COVID-19 vaccines are not shown to have any negative effect on babies in the womb. They may help to protect your baby after birth as you may pass on antibodies to your baby.



### Any stage of pregnancy

You can get the vaccine at any stage of pregnancy. You can get it in the early stages of pregnancy or if you are close to full-term, but the sooner you get it, the sooner you and your baby are protected. If you have already been vaccinated, you can get your booster dose at any stage of pregnancy.



### Protect you and your baby

Your own body develops protection against COVID-19 after vaccination. Your body develops antibodies against COVID-19. They pass across the placenta to your baby. The vaccine itself is broken down in your body and disappears after a few days.



### Most side-effects are mild and short-lived

Most side effects from the vaccine are mild, and go away after a few days. They include a sore arm, tiredness, a temperature and a headache. Serious side effects, like an allergic reaction are very rare.



### No effect on fertility

COVID-19 vaccines have no effect on fertility. COVID-19 vaccines are closely monitored around the world. There is no information to suggest that COVID-19 vaccines have any effect on your ability to get pregnant or on fertility.

Talk to your Doctor or Midwife about COVID-19 vaccines or visit the HSE website.

COVID-19 vaccines are available from participating GPs, Pharmacies, Central Vaccination Clinics and in some maternity hospitals.

Scan the QR code to visit the HSE website:

