# Maryland COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

## About the Vaccines—For Patients

There are three vaccines anticipated to be available at first:

| Vaccine | How It Works |
|---|---|
| Pfizer / BioNTech | Contains fragments of genetic coding material that makes your body create a harmless protein. The protein then stimulates your body to create antibodies that fight the COVID-19 virus if you are infected. |
| Moderna | |
| AstraZeneca | Contains a harmless version of a live virus—a different virus than the one that causes COVID-19. This weakened virus is altered to make a protein that stimulates your body to create cells and antibodies that fight the COVID-19 virus if you are infected. |

## What You Need To Know About The Vaccines

- The vaccines are safe, and they will not give you COVID-19.
- The vaccines are effective at preventing you from getting seriously ill with COVID-19.
- Mild side effects are normal, including injection-site pain, fatigue, fever, muscle aches, headaches and chills.

## Keep In Mind

- COVID-19 vaccine safety is a top priority of the U.S. government and the Maryland State government.
- COVID-19 vaccines will not alter your body's chemistry or DNA, and they will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 tests.
- It is possible that you can still transmit COVID-19 to other people after you have been vaccinated. We all need to continue wearing masks and social distancing.
- When you get vaccinated, you help to protect vulnerable people you care about. As greater numbers of people are vaccinated, we will achieve "herd immunity" that will greatly reduce cases of serious illness and death from COVID-19.

For more COVID-19 vaccination resources, including fact sheets and FAQs, visit **covidLINK.maryland.gov.**