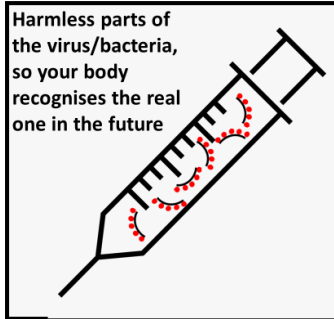
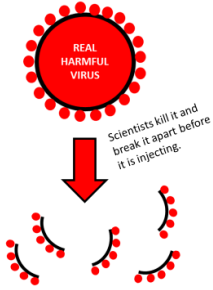
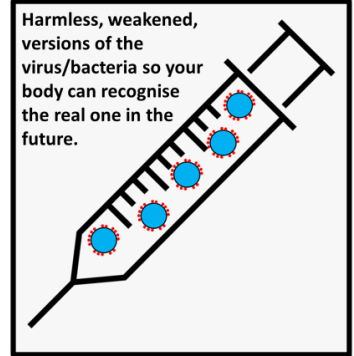
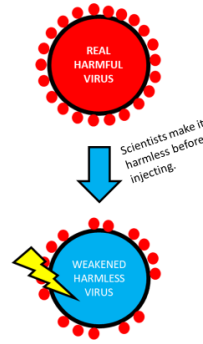


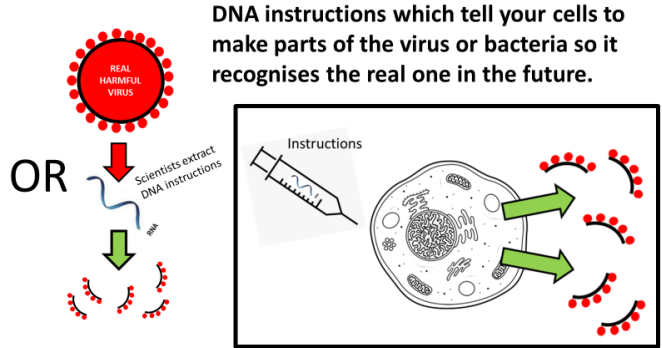
## What are they?



OR



## How might I feel when I get vaccinated?



Doctors **want** to fool your body to think it's been infected for real, so that it knows what the real virus looks like.

You might experience<sup>1</sup>:

- The area where the needle went in looking red, swollen and a bit sore for 2 to 3 days.
- Feeling a bit unwell or developing a high temperature for 1 or 2 days.

**As when you try any new food or take a new medication, an allergic reaction can happen. But for vaccines this is extremely rare.**

This is **normal** and **helps your body remember**.

## Are vaccines safe?



- Overwhelming medical evidence shows that negative side effects are rare and minor.<sup>2</sup>
- Improved safety means that researchers are sometimes searching for vanishingly small risks.<sup>3</sup>
- Vaccines must undergo stringent safety tests before distribution.<sup>3</sup>
- Nothing in medicine is 100 percent safe. The absolute safety of vaccines cannot be proved, but the relative absence of serious side effects in so many studies shows how safe vaccines are.<sup>4</sup>

# Do vaccines cause autism? - No

The MMR autism scare was caused by claims from a doctor, Andrew Wakefield, which have now been proved to be fraud.<sup>5</sup> Of course this still makes people very worried, so lots of research was done to make sure there was no link.



Andrew Wakefield

Twenty epidemiological studies have shown that the MMR vaccine does not cause autism.<sup>7</sup>

657 461 children in Denmark were studied. There was no difference in the rates of autism between those who'd been vaccinated and those who hadn't.<sup>8</sup>

Wakefield's work has been completely discredited and he has been struck off as a doctor in the UK.<sup>6</sup>

## What happens if we don't get vaccinated?

Since vaccines were introduced, diseases like smallpox, polio and tetanus that used to kill or disable millions of people are either gone or seen very rarely.<sup>9</sup>

If people stop having vaccines, it allows infectious diseases to quickly spread again.<sup>9</sup>

In 2015 a large multi-state measles outbreak started at a California amusement park, and many of those infected were unvaccinated children.<sup>10</sup>

Tetanus – this is a child suffering from the painful muscle contractions of tetanus.



Smallpox – an example of a disease eradicated by vaccination.<sup>11</sup>



Polio – the last case of polio in the UK was in the mid 1980s!<sup>12</sup>



## Are Covid vaccines being rushed?

They have met strict standards of safety and quality set out by an independent (non-government/companies) regulator.<sup>14</sup>

They have gone through all the trials and safety checks all other licensed medicines go through.<sup>14</sup>



Thousands of people have been given a COVID-19 vaccine and reports of serious side effects, such as allergic reactions, have been very rare. No long-term complications have been reported.<sup>14</sup>

Many thousands of older people have died of Covid-19. No one has even had a serious side effect, let alone die, from the vaccine so minor side-effects might seem unimportant.<sup>13</sup>

### Professor Colin Bingle, Sheffield University

'I do not feel that corners are being cut. Goodwill/collaboration has transformed the way drug development is performed. Truly huge amounts of money are being thrown at this problem. Money makes a lot of time-related issues go away.'

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