

# WPE HANDOUT: WHY SHOULD I GET VACCINATED?



## 1. Introduce the topic:

- Building defenses against COVID-19 is a team effort. We all play an important part of that defense. We ALL have to use ALL the tools we have to beat COVID-19, and this includes vaccination.
- Vaccination is the most effective way to protect against infectious diseases. Vaccines save millions of lives each year.



## 2. Top five things you need to know:

1. Vaccines work by training and preparing the body's natural defences – the immune system – to recognise and fight off the viruses and bacteria they target. After vaccination, if the body is later exposed to those disease-causing germs, the body is immediately ready to destroy them, preventing illness.
2. A COVID-19 vaccine will reduce your chances of getting COVID-19 or from becoming seriously ill or dying due to COVID-19.
3. COVID-19 can have serious, life-threatening complications, and there is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. And if you get sick, you could spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you.
4. If enough people are vaccinated, however, we could achieve herd immunity. This is when so many people are protected against a disease, it is not able to spread. So if enough people get vaccinated, it will protect those who are unable to get the vaccine themselves.
5. Vaccination will help save lives and livelihoods:
  - Tell others why you are getting vaccinated and encourage them to get vaccinated.
  - Learn how to have conversations about COVID-19 vaccine with coworkers, family, and friends.



## 3. Points to discuss with the group:

- How will you explain to your family why you have chosen to get vaccinated?
- Can you think of any ways you can make it easier for people to understand how vaccines work?