

Personal Testimony: Eric Opens Up about Getting Vaccinated

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When I received the email that I was eligible to receive the Moderna vaccine from the Kankakee County Health Department at my local Jewel Osco pharmacy, I couldn't have been more elated.

While I know some people may be a little hesitant about getting the shot, I felt it was my responsibility to do my part to help end the pandemic and reduce my chances of getting extremely sick or experiencing life threatening complications from the virus. There is no way to know how the virus will affect you. I didn't want to take that chance.

While I was concerned about possible side effects from the vaccine, I did my homework and read several stories about other people's experiences and details about the mRNA technology. I was convinced that the benefits outweighed the risk. Yes, the probability of having side effects was going to be uncomfortable, but those are temporary and survivable. COVID-19 has some possible life-long effects and is deadly. For me, the COVID-19 vaccine shot itself was less painful than my flu shot. For my first shot, my arm was a little sore around the injection site, and I experienced a mild stress headache that lasted less than a day. With my second dose, it took about a day after the injection before I had any real side effects (a low-grade fever and slight chills) but still very mild overall.



When I hear people express concerns about the vaccine, particularly about it being unsafe or rushed, I urge them to do a little research. I believe the vaccine is safe and is going to help us put COVID-19 behind us and return to life as we enjoyed it before. I looked at Harvard medical reviews and a couple other medical research articles on mRNA technology to understand that it is not as new as it is portrayed – it has been under development for at least 10 years and required this final push to become a useful reality. Getting vaccinated was a no brainer for me, and I am relieved to have gotten both doses. While I am not an authority on this subject, those who are have published many articles you can research. Look them up and you might be excited by the possibilities the technology brings with it and its ability to help us all fight COVID-19.

We thank Eric for sharing his experience. and encourage employees to get vaccinated at the first available opportunity. For more information on the vaccine and FAQs, don't forget to visit [the Vax Scene](#) webpage.