

## Lasting COVID-19 Vaccine Protection

Because Consonus customers were among the first in the country to receive the vaccine in December, some are now asking if the clock could be running out on critical antibodies. People want to know how long the COVID vaccine protection lasts and when a booster will be needed. There is significant speculation occurring around this topic that are leading some to be fearful around vaccine efficacy and preparing for the future. We can offer some reassurance with FACTS.

## What we KNOW

The vaccines are still SAFE and EFFECTIVE in preventing severe COVID-19!

Breakthrough infections can occur in people who have been vaccinated against COVID-19. So far, though, they are largely occurring without major problems. Most people are asymptomatic, and their cases are discovered only during routine testing.

Variants of the novel coronavirus will continue to spread and mutate. Researchers will continue to monitor how the vaccines perform and whether booster shots will be needed to maintain immunity.

To date, studies suggest that the current vaccines work on the notable variants within the US.

Early data show that vaccination helps keep people with no symptoms from spreading COVID-19. This means less opportunity for the virus to mutate to a variant of concern.

It is premature to predict whether COVID-19 boosters will be needed and, if so, at what intervals.

## What we are still LEARNING

We do not know how LONG the vaccine protection lasts and the efficacy against new VARIANTS, not yet seen.

Manufacturers are proactively developing next-generation versions of their vaccines and boosters designed to bolster protection against the original strain of the virus as well as against some of the new variants. Research and development are important despite the unknown if or when vaccine-induced immunity will begin to wane. Ultimately, it will be the FDA/CDC that determine the need for booster vaccines.

## Bottom Line

Once vaccinated, you are highly unlikely to be infected by the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the ensuing months and, hopefully, years. If you do become infected, you are almost certain not to have a severe illness or to die.

## The Solution

For the vaccine-hesitant who may undervalue the benefit of these vaccines, we recommend sharing the facts. The vaccine is not a tool to prevent COVID-19 and end the pandemic...it is the SOLUTION.

Consonus remains dedicated to providing this solution to our seniors and staff in LTC to ensure they meet vaccination rate goal of 75% or greater. This week we are happy to report we have surpassed 1000 vials of vaccine dispensed for phase 2! In the event a future booster is needed, don't panic, Consonus will be here to guide and protect seniors, just as we did in the previous phases on the Road to Recovery.

If you have questions on our continuity plan or how to place an order for the VaccPack, please contact your consultant nurse or pharmacist or email [vaccineorders@consonushealth.com](mailto:vaccineorders@consonushealth.com).