WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:
COVID-19 Vaccine & Pregnancy

Should I become vaccinated if I plan on becoming pregnant?

Yes. Pregnant women who get COVID-19 have a higher risk of hospitalization, admittance to the ICU, and may require ventilation, which means you require special equipment to breathe.

Are the COVID-19 vaccines available to pregnant or nursing mothers?

Yes. Reports show women who gave birth after being vaccinated passed on antibodies to their newborns, thus protecting them. It may also provide some immunity for nursing babies.

Do the COVID-19 vaccines affect fertility?

No. They have no effect on future fertility. It is recommended that women undergoing invasive procedures like in vitro fertilization not get the vaccine three days before or three days after the procedure. That's because the COVID-19 vaccines may have side effects that include fever or chills. Health experts do not want to confuse these side effects with any type of infection related to the procedure.

Why is it important to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

It is safe and effective. Pregnant women who get COVID-19 are at a higher risk of severe illness. The vaccine will help protect them and their babies.

Visit **healthy.arkansas.gov** for more information