

WHY GET VACCINATED AGAINST COVID-19?

The COVID-19 pandemic started in December 2019, and has continued ever since. To date, 226 million people (recorded) have fallen sick, and over 4.5 million lives have been lost to the disease, worldwide. In Turkey, 6.6 million have contracted the disease, while the death toll has been 60117. The numbers are estimated to be much worse in reality. In an effort to stop the pandemic, each member of the society should take all preventive measures.

Vaccination is the most effective method against transmissible diseases. Vaccines prepare your defense mechanism for battles against diseases, without making you sick. Vaccines have helped eradicate smallpox; also having decreased the mortality and disability rates of children's diseases.

Vaccines are prepared through long, extensive procedures. They will not be approved, or enter into circulation without proper quality assurance, and without meeting international standards. The vaccines against COVID-19 were developed in a quick and technological fashion, adhering to the highest safety standards possible; without compromising the rigor of the studies, and the safety of the vaccines. In addition, there are studies for vaccines of other types not yet in use.

Data from Turkey and the world show that although there are some differences between the COVID-19 vaccines in use, all of them have high protective effects and all of them prevent the disease from progressing severely, or from leading to deaths. COVID-19 vaccines do not cause COVID-19. As is the case with many types of medication, or a fewer number of other types of vaccines, the COVID-19 vaccine may have some temporary, local side effects. Painkillers and antipyretics help with any discomfort. Vaccine-related serious side effects are extremely rare cases. COVID-19 may affect everyone, even children. A disease is a lot more likely to seriously harm an individual than a vaccine against it. To date, 5.5 billion doses of vaccines have been administered, with 103 million doses administered in Turkey (as of September 14, 2021).

Although the level varies according to the transmission rate of the disease agent and the effectiveness of the vaccines, at least 80% of the population in Turkey should be vaccinated in order to be able to control the COVID-19 pandemic. As the virus spreads among humans, it changes, resulting in variants that are more contagious, more severe, and more resistant to the effects of vaccines. In order to end the current pandemic and stop new variants in their tracks, the majority of the society should be vaccinated.

It is an individual and social responsibility for us to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to end the pandemic and return to the normal life that we have missed, as soon as possible. While the current vaccines in use in Turkey are all effective against the initial corona virus, Biontec is scientifically proven to work more effectively than the other current vaccines against the Delta variant, the recent and strongest factor behind the pandemic. Therefore, people who are getting their first shots should choose Biontech, and those previously vaccinated and wishing to get another shot should keep that in mind. To ensure the effectiveness of vaccines, both doses are required, and each dose should be administered at recommended dates. For the sake of our own, as well as for the sake of our loved ones and the society itself, please get vaccinated.