COVID-19 VACCINE COMPARISONS

Available Vaccines	Pfizer-BioNTech	Moderna	Johnson & Johnson
Hospitalizations and Death	100% in preventing hospitalization from COVID-19 symptoms.	100% in preventing hospitalization from COVID-19 symptoms.	100% in preventing hospitalization from COVID-19 symptoms.
Efficacy for illness	Vaccine was shown to be 95% effective in preventing severe symptoms of COVID-19 after two doses.	Vaccine was shown to be 94.1% effective in preventing severe symptoms COVID-19 after two doses.	Vaccine was shown to be 72% effective in preventing moderate to severe COVID-19 after one dose.
Side Effects	Include pain at the injection site, redness of the skin, muscle pain, headache, fatigue, nausea and fever.	Include pain at the injection site, redness of the skin, muscle pain, headache, fatigue, nausea and fever.	Include pain at the injection site, redness of the skin, muscle pain, headache, fatigue, nausea and fever.
Type	mRNA-based	mRNA-based	Adenovirus-based

Shelf life	Can be kept in a standard refrigerator for up to 5 days, in a dry-ice chest for up to 30 days, or in an ultra-cold freezer (-94 degrees Fahrenheit) for up to 6 months.	Can be kept at room temperature for up to 12 hours, a standard refrigerator for up to 30 days, and a standard freezer for up to 6 months.	Can be kept in normal refrigerator temperature (36°F to 46°F) for at least three months; -13°F to 5°F for long-term storage.
How to administer	2 shots, 3 weeks apart	2 shots, 4 weeks apart	1 shot
Who can get vaccinated	16 years and older	18 years and older	18 years and older
Observation Period	15 minutes to watch for rare allergic reactions; 30 minutes for history of serious allergic reactions	15 minutes to watch for rare allergic reactions; 30 minutes for history of serious allergic reactions	15 minutes to watch for rare allergic reactions; 30 minutes for history of serious allergic reactions
Regulatory status	Received emergency use authorization (EUA) by FDA	Received emergency use authorization (EUA) by FDA	Received emergency use authorization (EUA) by FDA
Production capacity	Predicts it will produce up to 50 million vaccine doses for global distribution by the end of 2020, and up to 1.3 billion doses in 2021.	Predicts it will have 20 million doses ready to ship in the US by the end of 2020 and produce 500 million–1 billion doses globally in 2021.	Predicts nearly 4 million available immediately in the U.S. upon FDA authorization; 20 million by the end of March and 100 million by the end of June.
Sources: https://www.pfizer.com/ https://www.modernatx.com/ https://www.janessen.com/ https://www.fda.gov/ www.fda.gov, www.factcheck.org;			

HOW THE LEADING VACCINES WORK AND HOW THEY DIFFER

Pfizer/BioNTech (mRNA)

- Specially manufactured mRNA, or genetic material, is injected into cells, directing the body to create a tiny amount of coronavirus spike proteins. The body's immune system responds by making antibodies to the proteins, which protect the person if they're exposed to COVID-19 down in the futures. This type of messenger RNA vaccine has never been approved for humans.

Moderna (mRNA)

- This vaccine relies on the same mRNA approach as Pfizer's.

Johnson & Johnson (viral vector)

- A gene for the coronavirus' spike proteins is attached to a virus for the common cold that has already been "disabled," so it can't infect the person. The harmless cold virus acts like a delivery service, dropping the spike-protein gene into the body and prompting the development of a tiny amount of COVID-19 spike proteins, which trigger antibodies. This is what's known as a viral vector vaccine.

FACT: The data from phase 3 clinical trials for all three vaccines show that all of them are 100 percent effective in preventing hospitalization and death from COVID-19.

FACT: It's important to maintain existing protective measures after getting vaccinated. Wear a cloth or disposable mask when in public (both indoors and outdoors). Practice social distancing (keep at least 6 feet space between you and others). Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve, not your hands. Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available. Stay home if you are sick and avoid sick people.

More Information

Different COVID-19 Vaccines
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html

Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines work
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/how-they-work.html

Understanding mRNA Vaccines
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/mrna.html

Understanding Viral-vector Vaccines
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/viralvector.html

To register for vaccination
Camden County Department of Health and Human Services
www.camdencountyvaccine.com

COVID-19 information
www.nj.gov/health