## **CDC Recommends COVID-19** Vaccine for Pregnant Women

Based on new evidence, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is strengthening its recommendation for COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy.

## The CDC now recommends COVID-19 vaccination for all people 12 years and older, including those who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or trying to get pregnant now or might become pregnant in the future.

Growing evidence about the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy demonstrates that the benefits outweigh any known or potential risks and vaccination is essential to protect pregnant people.

In a new analysis of current data from the v-safe pregnancy registry, scientists did not find an increased risk for miscarriage among people who received an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine before 20 weeks of pregnancy.<sup>1</sup>

Additionally, previous findings from three safety monitoring systems did not find any safety concerns for pregnant people who were vaccinated late in pregnancy or for their babies.

The increased circulation of the highly contagious Delta variant, the low vaccine uptake among pregnant people, and the increased risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications related to COVID-19 infection among pregnant people make vaccination for this population more urgent than ever.

Pregnant and recently pregnant people are more likely to get severely ill with COVID-19 compared with non-pregnant people. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy can protect you from severe illness from COVID-19.

For more information from the CDC on COVID-19 vaccines for pregnant and breastfeeding women, visit https://tinyurl.com/CDCpregnancyandCOVID.

For more information on COVID-19 and registering for vaccinations in Stephenson County, visit www.fhn.org



<sup>1</sup>View data from the study at https://tinyurl.com/COVIDvaccinepregnancystudy. Note: The risk of miscarriage in the v-safe study above was 13 percent in women vaccinated prior to 20 weeks' gestation. These data are not concerning; miscarriage rates after receiving an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine are within what experts expect to see based on previous studies (11-16 percent). These data do not suggest an increased risk for miscarriage after receiving an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine just before or within the first 20 weeks of pregnancy.