

# Welcome to the “Clever” Endeavor

By Laura McClain

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## Everything You Need to Know About Vaccines... But Were Afraid to Ask Video

By Sam Kennedy

**BETHLEHEM** - St. Luke's University Health Network has released a video to the public called “Everything You Need to Know About Vaccines... But Were Afraid to Ask” as part of its Emmy Award-winning Wellness 101 web series. Wellness 101 is a practical but humorous step-by-step guide to successfully complete some of life's most important tasks and deal with some of life's most perplexing, and in this case one of life's most serious, situations.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), vaccine hesitancy is one of the top 10 global health threats today. This hesitancy extends also to getting the COVID vaccine, which is understandable, say public health experts, in that the Pfizer and Moderna COVID vaccines work differently than vaccines have in the past. This episode of Wellness 101 breaks down for the general public in 4 minutes, what vaccines are, how they work and how our scientists and trusted public health institutions work to keep them safe and effective.

Wellness 101 episodes are posted to St. Luke's YouTube Channel. “Everything You Need to Know About Vaccines... But Were Afraid to Ask” can be found here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5n0p\\_SirUM&list=PLJTOeMsZZCjdxgsThrkQ7RdGx9NPxOvTj&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5n0p_SirUM&list=PLJTOeMsZZCjdxgsThrkQ7RdGx9NPxOvTj&index=1)

COVID vaccines have started to roll out across the country. Who receives the vaccine and in what order is not up to any individual hospital or health care provider. Vaccine allotments are determined by each state's Department of Health, and distribution is governed by the CDC's recommended phased approach.

## St. Luke's Plan for Vaccinating Our Communities

St. Luke's has engaged in extensive planning and preparations to expand COVID-19 vaccination access to the general population in a smooth, orderly and safe fashion.

Following Pennsylvania Department of Health directives, St. Luke's thus far has concentrated its vaccination efforts on Phase 1a priority groups, such as health care employees and first responders. As we prepare for the state to move into the next phase as announced today, St. Luke's has developed a process to allow individuals to sign-up for notifications regarding the vaccine.

“We are proceeding in a thoughtful, orderly and safe way,” says Jeffrey Jahre, MD, St. Luke's Senior VPMA regarding the Department of Health's announcement today. “As per the state, we are opening scheduling to individuals age 65+ and those with medical conditions. To avoid lines and chaos, we are prioritizing individuals at the highest risk starting with individuals 75+ and rapidly working down the list as we have supplies. We anticipate that with increased supplies in manufacturing and the addition of other vaccines, like Johnson & Johnson's, that there will be rapid increase in our ability to accommodate the entire population.”

As of today, anyone can pre-register for vaccination through the St. Luke's MyChart portal at [www.sluhn.org/vaccine](http://www.sluhn.org/vaccine). Those who do not have a MyChart account may create one.

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