* Vaccines are safe
	+ Each vaccination underwent necessary testing for effectiveness and safety
		- All vaccines received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval after testing
		- There is ongoing monitoring of all vaccines to ensure safety and efficacy
	+ These methods of safety tracking and monitoring were put in place to ensure safety of vaccines and address any adverse side effects [(link to source)](https://wedc.org/vaccine-guidelines/)
		- Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)
		- Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD)
		- Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment (CISA)
		- Biologics Effectiveness and Safety System (BEST)
		- V-safe monitoring system
		- National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)
	+ Any side effects a person might experience after receiving a vaccination such as chills, fever, body aches, etc., will go away after a few days
		- Your chance of experiencing a severe side effect is one in five million
		- Experiencing side effects is completely normal and demonstrates that your body is building immunity against the virus
* Vaccines are effective and we can trust them [(link to source)](https://wedc.org/vaccine-guidelines/)
	+ Proven to work and decrease risk of severe illness and hospitalization
	+ Vaccinated individuals are 89-100% less likely to be hospitalized or die from COVID-19
	+ The vaccines are 72-95% effective at preventing people from getting the virus
* Vaccines are credible and trustworthy
	+ 96% of practicing physicians are vaccinated [(link to source)](https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucejapsen/2021/06/11/ama-96-of-doctors-are-vaccinated-against-covid-19/?sh=b4e4f43591c9)
* Receiving the COVID-19 vaccination will not give you COVID-19 or allow you to test positive on COVID-19 tests
* You can make the choice to help protect your family, friends and neighbors by getting vaccinated
* Vaccines are extremely accessible and remain at no cost to receive
	+ All adults are eligible to receive vaccine [(link to source)](https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/poll-finding/kff-covid-19-vaccine-monitor-april-2021/)
	+ Find a vaccination appointment near you
		- https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-get.htm
		- https://www.vaccines.gov/
	+ The federal government is providing the vaccine free of charge to all people living in the U.S., regardless of their immigration or health insurance status - making it extremely available to all
	+ Many businesses prioritize employee vaccination and provide the time and space to get attend a vaccination appointment during work hours if needed
	+ You may be eligible for a free, at-home vaccination if needed
* Employers can play a huge role in reducing the spread of COVID-19 by encouraging vaccinations. This ultimately protects their business or organization, customers, clients, and staff from the virus and the greater community at large
	+ Communications, policies, and programs can all be used to encourage vaccination among workforce and therefore the community at large
	+ Here is a helpful [guide](https://wedc.org/vaccine-guidelines/) for employers to address COVID-19 and importance of vaccination to employees
	+ Eligible employers, such as businesses and tax-exempt organizations with fewer than 500 employees and certain governmental employers, can receive a tax credit for providing paid time off for each employee receiving the vaccine and for any time needed to recover from the vaccine [(link to source)](https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/american-rescue-plan-tax-credits-available-to-small-employers-to-provide-paid-leave-to-employees-receiving-covid-19-vaccines-new-fact-sheet-outlines-details)
* As a state, Wisconsin is actively fighting to change policies in order to address COVID-19 inequities and help vulnerable populations
	+ Proposed policy changes include:
		- Paid sick leave policies with paid time off to isolate/quarantine
		- Changing workers compensation so when workers are infected with COVID-19, it’s assumed they were infected at their place of work
		- Direct payments to informal sector workers, including undocumented workers
* You have the chance to save lives by choosing to get vaccinated
	+ This is a real battle we are currently facing where there is a spike in illness and death of COVID-19 due to the Delta variant [(link to source)](https://messaging-custom-newsletters.nytimes.com/template/oakv2?abVariantId=0&campaign_id=9&emc=edit_nn_20210719&instance_id=35675&nl=the-morning&productCode=NN&regi_id=83788952&segment_id=63826&te=1&uri=nyt%3A%2F%2Fnewsletter%2F6d943893-84bd-5d63-9179-cc1b92f9937b&user_id=05889e841f9a0117c07727262cd912fd)
* Let’s contribute to a return to normalcy here in the U.S. by linking arms with one another to reach a common goal of health and flourishing through vaccination
	+ Despite our differences, we can choose to do the right thing to vaccinate in order to protect our children, our homes, and our communities from COVID-19
	+ We need bipartisan support for these life-saving means to fighting this extremely transmittable virus
		- This is not a political issue, its is a public health issue
			* Enthusiasm for the vaccine is present among both parties
		- Public health experts urge us to look at the issue for what it is, a public health issue, where we have the power to help reduce spread and ultimately reduce severe illness and death
			* Nationwide, more than 99% of recent COVID deaths have occurred among the unvaccinated and more than 97% of recent hospitalizations have occurred among the unvaccinated [(link to source)](https://www.vaccines.gov/)
			* Death rate of COVID-19 has been significantly higher in low-vaccinated states than in those with higher vaccination rates