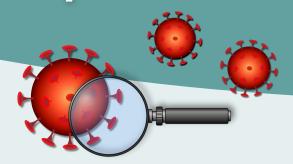
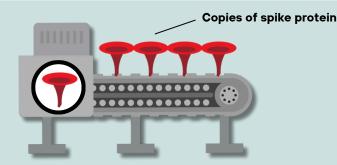
How mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Work During Pregnancy

1. The COVID-19 Virus

The SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19, has crown-shaped spikes on its surface which are called **spike proteins.**¹



¹ CDC. (2023, Sept 22). Understanding how COVID-19 vaccines work. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/how-they-work.html

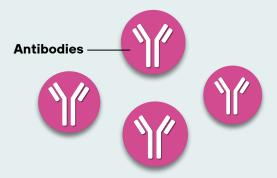


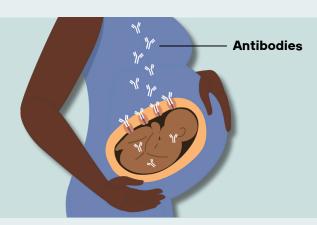
2. mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines

The mRNA in the COVID-19 vaccine teaches your cells to make **harmless copies** of the **spike protein** found on the COVID-19 virus.

3. Protection for You

Your immune system treats these copies as intruders. It creates **protective antibodies** to fight them off and forms memory cells that remember how to protect you if you're exposed to the virus later.





4. Vaccination in Pregnancy

When you get the COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy, the protective antibodies your body makes in response to the vaccine **pass through** the placenta and umbilical cord to your baby.

5. Protection for Two

These antibodies give your baby **early protection** against COVID-19 during the first months of life when they are most vulnerable.













