

Soundbite Script – Get Your (Other) Vaccines On

Dr. Leonardo Lopez, Chief Medical Officer, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center

“Vaccines have really helped with infectious disease. It was breakthrough medicine when it came out. It changed the lives and outcomes for millions of people – we basically eradicated polio. Of course, there are different vaccines and their effectiveness vary. Vaccines don’t always necessarily eradicate the disease completely but many times it does lower the incidence of mortality, so less people die from that disease – maybe not prevent that disease completely, but manage the disease so the health of the community is much improved.”

Dr. Leonardo Lopez, Chief Medical Officer, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center

“Vaccines are very helpful. They’re like wearing a seatbelt. It doesn’t mean you’re not going to get into a crash and it doesn’t mean you won’t get injuries from a crash, but it definitely improves your chances of doing well after a crash. The same goes for a vaccine. It improves your chances of minimizing the chances of disease and the severity of the disease.”

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“One of the best things to do is to talk to your physician. It’s good to read different things and I encourage you to do that. Sometimes it can be confusing what you read but come with that information, ask specific questions and have your physician guide you through those questions.”

Dr. Leonardo Lopez, Chief Medical Officer, OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center

“The most important way to get protection from a vaccine is to actually get the vaccine. The sooner you get it the sooner you’re protected, and that’s my main message. Even if you get two vaccines (flu and COVID) together, get them because the sooner you do the sooner your protection starts.”