

Vaccination Without Hesitation (*Interview Transcripts*)

Deena Williams-Jones, RN, Oncology, OSF HealthCare

“It was really not a difficult decision for me because this disease is very serious. It threatens people’s lives and I’ve seen many people die from it. I see the vaccine as an opportunity not only to protect myself, but to protect my family and the patients that I serve. It gives me a sense of security.” (:21)

Irene Gray, RN, Surgery, OSF HealthCare

“It’s more of a selfless act. You are not doing it just for yourself, you’re doing it for other people, for your loved ones and the people you work with – so it’s more than just you. I think that the more we can do to help each other, the better off we are.” (:19)

Eileen Knightly, Chief Nursing Officer, OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center

“Many people got very, very sick and unfortunately succumbed to this disease. – and it wasn’t because they were old and frail. We had some healthy people come in who got very sick quickly and succumbed. So I’m obligated to them and to their courage that I would then vaccinate.” (:19)

Irene Gray, RN, Surgery, OSF HealthCare

“The process of getting the vaccine is really not bad. You come in and get your shot, wait for a few minutes to make sure you don’t have a reaction, and then make an appointment for your next vaccination. And you are aware of the potential side effects, so you can be prepared to maybe or maybe not experience those – because not everyone who gets the vaccine has those same side effects.” (:26)

Sarah Baacke, RN, ICU, OSF HealthCare

“I came back from maternity leave a week before COVID hit, so I was very nervous. I was to the 9’s with my PPE, changing my clothes before going home – everything. Now, I just feel more comfortable being able to care for patients and know that I am also protected.” (:26)

Deena Williams-Jones, RN, Oncology, OSF HealthCare

“It is so important that we get this virus under control – and be able to embrace our loved ones. I thought, how could we have a disease that would not allow us to be able to hug one another and see the people we care about so much? So if that means me getting a vaccine so that I could hug my daughter and hug my parents – I think it is such an important thing for us to do.” (:25)

Sarah Baacke, RN, ICU, OSF HealthCare

“If you want things to go back to normal in any way – everybody keeps talking about normalcy and kids going back to school, people going back to work. It’s a chance. We can’t get better without people taking a chance.” (:18)

Eileen Knightly, Chief Nursing Officer, OSF HealthCare Little Company of Mary Medical Center

“If you can’t figure out another reason, our healthcare workers and our world have really been through a lot. So I think we need to come together to really come up with a solution – and it’s really up to all of us to participate in that. So please do it. There is no other way to say it other than please vaccinate.” (:18)