

# HOW DOES HERD IMMUNITY WORK?

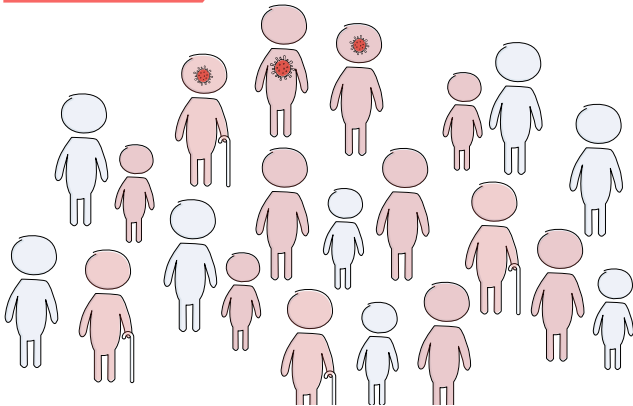
Contagious diseases, like **COVID-19**, spread from person to person. That means that if someone gets sick, they can pass it on to other people.



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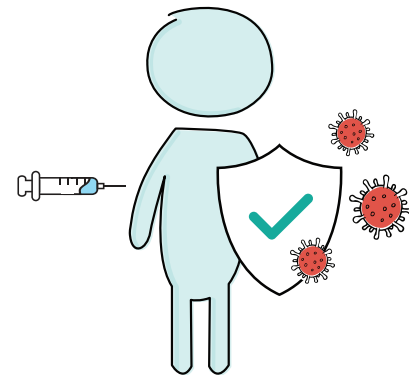
Discoveries for life

## New virus



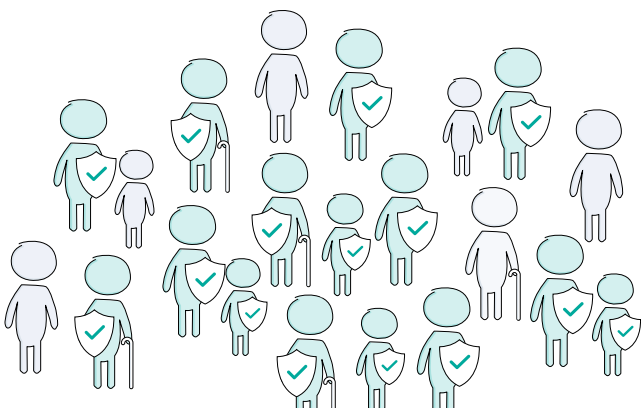
When **too few people have immunity** against the disease, it can spread throughout the community. This happens because most of the population is **susceptible to infection**, so the disease can continue to reach new people.

## Vaccination

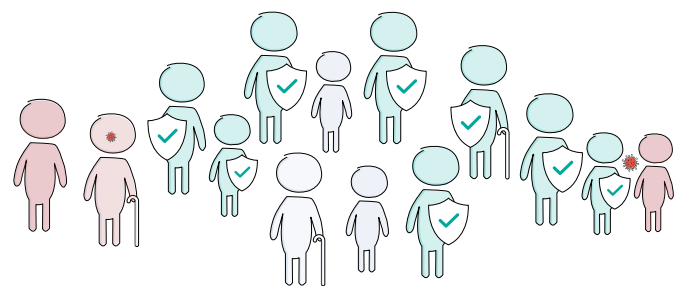


A tried-and-tested way to break the infection cycle is through **vaccination**. In the case of COVID-19, fully vaccinated people are far less likely to become infected. Essentially, they are **harder to infect**.

## Herd immunity



If **enough people get vaccinated**, then whole communities can become **harder to infect**, which means the disease won't be able to spread as easily.



And this ultimately protects those who do not have immunity from the disease. It's called **herd immunity**. By reducing the spread of infection, the harder-to-infect members of the herd help to keep more vulnerable ones safe.

# HERD IMMUNITY

It means **your immunity** is good for **your community**

Learn more at [www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52595.html](http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52595.html)