LIKE VACCINES, ANTIVIRAL MEDICINES MAY HELP PEOPLE ACHIEVE IMMUNITY TO SARS-COV-2

How antiviral medicines and vaccines combine – and how both may help against COVID-19

PASSIVE IMMUNITY

Antibodies from someone who has had COVID-19 can help you achieve passive immunity. This means your immune system has an immediate, ready-made supply of specific antibodies to protect you from the virus. Depending on how you get exposed to COVID-19, you may become immune to it.

ACTIVE IMMUNITY

Antibodies produced by your own body can help you achieve active immunity. This means your immune system will make specific antibodies to protect you from COVID-19. Depending on how you get exposed to COVID-19, you may become immune to it.

HOW CAN IMMUNITY AGAINST COVID-19 BE ACQUIRED?

Immunity

There are two main ways your immune system can respond to COVID-19: passive immunity and active immunity. Passive immunity means your body has specific antibodies against COVID-19 that were already there. Active immunity means your body is producing specific antibodies to protect against COVID-19.

THE BIPROFILINGAL TREATMENT OF COVID-19

Passive immunity is inherited from someone who has had COVID-19 or is someone who has been vaccinated against COVID-19. Active immunity is achieved by getting vaccinated against COVID-19 or getting infected with COVID-19.

The ultimate goal is for everyone to achieve immunity against COVID-19. People who achieve immunity through vaccination will be better prepared to fight COVID-19. People who achieve immunity through infection will be able to fight COVID-19 on their own.

HOW VACCINES WORK

Vaccines work by introducing a weakened or inactive form of the virus into your body. This stimulates your immune system to produce specific antibodies to fight the virus. When you become infected with the virus, your immune system can use the antibodies you made to prevent the virus from spreading in your body.


LEARN MORE ABOUT IMMUNITY AGAINST COVID-19

Learn more about how immunity against COVID-19 can be achieved by visiting the website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).