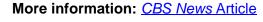


Moderna COVID-19 vaccine protection may last years, company claims

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Moderna CEO Stéphane Bancel said the company's COVID-19 vaccine may prevent infection for years, *CBS News* reported Thursday.

While speaking at a virtual event hosted by Oddo BHF, a financial service group, Bancel said the "nightmare scenario" that the vaccine will not work is now in the past.

"We believe there will be protection potentially for a couple of years," Bancel said. The "antibody decay generated by the vaccine in humans goes down very slowly," *Reuters* reported, according to *CBS News*. Questions about <u>elderly patients</u> remain because their <u>immune system</u> weakens over time, Bancel noted.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that because reinfection is possible with COVID-19, even people who have already had the virus should still receive the vaccine. Natural immunity varies from person to person, *CBS News* reported.



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