Dear Red Raiders,

It’s been almost a year since the COVID-19 pandemic forced the university to move to virtual learning for students and remote work for faculty and staff. Thankfully, with the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccines, we can start to see our way out of this pandemic and hopefully soon begin to enjoy some of the activities we have missed out on over the last year.

I understand that many of you may have some apprehensions about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, which is understandable. I want to assure you that this vaccine is both safe and effective, and everyone in our university community should strongly consider getting it.

The goal of any vaccine is to prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death. The COVID-19 vaccine is no different and achieving herd immunity through vaccination will be what finally puts an end to this pandemic.

Currently, the state of Texas is allowing vaccinations for those individuals that fall within phases 1A and 1B. If you have not received your vaccine and you fall in one of these groups, please make sure you have joined the waiting list on the university’s vaccine webpage. When the state moves into the next phase of its vaccine rollout and more members of our community are eligible to receive it, we will communicate the details on how and where you can receive your vaccine.

In the meantime, please take a few minutes and watch this short video where we discuss three common myths associated with the COVID-19 vaccine. It’s vital that you have accurate information and let the science guide you in your decision making.

Sincerely,

David Edwards, M.D.
Medical Director
Student Health Services