

Video: What is mRNA, and how does it work?

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Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

mRNA is the key ingredient in COVID-19 vaccines. But what is it, and how does it work? Associate Professor John McGhee and his team at UNSW's 3D Visualisation Aesthetics Lab have created a visually

immersive 3D animation to explore mRNA's role in our cells—and to show how it helps fight COVID-19.

"My team specializes in making the invisible visible," A/Prof. McGhee says. "Using the tools of animation and video games, we illuminate complex processes that happen at a small scale and aren't typically seen by a lay audience.

"However, we're careful to not simplify science to the point of abstraction—we're always looking for that balance between making content accessible to a wide audience and staying true to the scientific complexity that underpins it all."

Learn more about A/Prof. McGhee's work in [this Newsroom article](#).

Vaccines are only the tip of the iceberg in the range of RNA therapeutics that are revolutionizing medicine. Follow [UNSW's YouTube channel](#) for more 3D animations about RNA's potential applications.

Provided by University of New South Wales

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