# Audio file

[Heather Markel.mp3](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

# [Transcript](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah, OK. So we need to ask you. Some different class. Just one moment. OK. Can you please tell me more about yourself, your education background, what you do in healthcare system, your age and how many years you're living in Alaska?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK, my age is 51. Yes, I've been in my career for let me think. 18 years. I'm a doctor of pharmacy, so I'm a pharmacist. And I've lived in Alaska for a month.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[One month.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah, I just moved here.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK, so you were not in Alaska during COVID, right?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[No, no.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK and. Generally, what is your idea about vaccines? Not only COVID vaccine, but generally all kind of vaccines?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Personally, I will never get a vaccine again. I had. I had a kidney transplant in 2017 and I have lupus and it was completely under control. And then I got the COVID maccini and I got the first booster and it reactivated my lupus and started going after my kidney. So I won't get back things again, but I. Have to give them at work.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[It's it's it's obligatory in your job, right? Yes. Mm-hmm. Do you think it was because it was so new and maybe there were not not enough experiments for the vaccines and somehow we had no other choice to get it right?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah, pretty much. Yeah. I think I think everybody was Guinea pigs back in 2020, yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK. And what about other people around you, for example, people who came to your to hospital clinic that, that you work on and how was people's ideas, do you think most of people were against vaccine COVID vaccine?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[No. Most of the people that come in are just dying to get the next one. They want it so badly, we're telling them it's not. It's not out yet. The new version hasn't come out yet. Just wait. Everybody's. Everybody's already freaking out.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[And where where are you at that time?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I work at Safeway in North Pole.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK. So on that place, people, I'm not sure if you know about about other store or not. Do you think people in Alaska where like? Very much positive about COVID right vaccine or not.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Oh, from my experience, the people that I've I've dealt with, everybody wants the vaccine. Everybody thinks that if they don't get the vaccine, they're going to get sick and die.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK, so people usually want it. OK, that's fine.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yes. So they want it.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK. And yeah, this thing is there any was was there any like impact of negative impact of social media on vaccine hesitancy for example any kind of discouraging?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Sorry.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[People to vaccine for vaccination like misinformation or spreading mistrust to the government or these kind of things.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Well, I think there's a there's a lot of mistrust and misinformation out there on each front, whether it's for vaccines or against vaccines. And in my experience, working in pharmacy even before I moved to Alaska, it's either you are totally for it or you're totally against it. There's no. Middle ground. So people that are totally for. The vaccine are just getting every vaccine that they can get. While the people that are against it just aren't getting anything.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK, I see.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[It's it's a definite one way or another, there's no middle ground.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I understand. Thank you. Do you think is there any strategies for example currently in Alaska about vaccine hesitancy?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Well, they're just pushing vaccines. I've not, I've noticed since I've I've been at Safeway. They want us to. They they have a screen that comes up whenever we fill a prescription that says this patient is due for this vaccine. So they actually want us to tell the patient every time they come to the pharmacy that they need a vaccine.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[So, so their strategy is to giving vaccine to people more and more, yes, yes, through your mouth, I mean, through your somehow specialist so that people can believe it better.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah. I I just let them do it. It's their body. So if they want the vaccine, I give it to them. So I mean like like I said, I won't ever get one again, but if if they want to do it, that's that's on them. So yeah, because most of my family, most of my family is completely against vaccines. And then my husband's family. Sorry. It's completely 4 vaccines. So it's it's like I said, it's you're either completely against or completely for, and a lot of it is social media and the news and everything. It's like they're telling you. What you want to what they want you to do, and it depends on which platform you listen to, on whether you have it or not, whether you're foreign or not. But main mainstream is definitely pushing people to be for it and to get all these vaccines. And now it's RSV and COVID and flu and whooping cough and everything.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I understand. Thank you. What challenges do you think, for example mostly in Alaska, because our work is focused in Alaska. What challenges are facing, I mean?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Or.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Assist them. Staff to persuading people for vaccination who are against vaccine. I mean, is there any kind of cultural or religious reasons or any kind of, for example, lack of education, what challenges are?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah, I I think everything that you listed is more as to why a lot of people want it. But what I would think would be a hesitancy or in like more rural areas. Where they're more. What am I trying to say? They're more dependent on organic medications and stuff like that rather than. You know, getting vaccines and getting eastern eastern medicine, and because that's what their ancestors had. And that's what a lot of Alaska is out in the rural area.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[So may they may believe on some natural prevention of disease.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK. Is it? Something because of their unique environment there.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I'm sorry, what was the? Question.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I mean, do you think this this idea is because of their unique environment of living?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Oh yeah, definitely, because in the rural areas. It's. I mean, it's hard for them to even get into a town, so to speak, because there there is nothing there just in these tiny little villages and they just depend on each other. So they don't have the same access to vaccines and medications. So they just use what? They've been using for centuries.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Mm-hmm. OK, what is healthcare system generally? How is? I mean, how is generally healthcare system in Alaska, do people easily or is it affordable for most of the people?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yes.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[My experience so far, it's pretty much the same as. You know, as the lower 48, I'm sure it's different in the smaller communities. I'm I'm thinking some of them have their own little health cares, but for any kind of major healthcare, it's do you have to travel a lot further and when when? And our hits, it's going to. Be even harder to travel so.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[So the accessibility is a big challenge for them.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yes.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yes, OK. And if you as a like if you are a policy maker in healthcare system in Alaska and you have a budget. UM, which one of these two? Would you, uh, put this budget on 1st in healthcare system infrastructure or in some community based activities and trust making activities?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I think it would be more into the infrastructure. Because you just need to build something and then from that you could branch off and build clinics in these little towns. Not they don't need so much that people just coming in and telling them all that mainstream media is telling them they need somebody actually there.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[So so you think that making I mean improving the infrastructure is more important for them?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah, that's that's my opinion, yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[And if we want to grow the trust of people to the government and especially healthcare system, and if we want to put a leader there for the people, do you think which one do you think? Will work better and religious leader an academic person like a university professor or a celebrity.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[To get people to listen.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[To get people to encourage people, for example, getting vaccine.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I would say in academic.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[So you think that?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Otherwise it's just like the people that are the like celebrity or I forget what you said. The first one was.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Religious leader.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[The legislator. Yeah. Well, religious leaders are gonna have their own agenda about it. And the celebrity is just saying. Basically mainstream media, and they don't really know anything. Effective. They're just saying what they're being told to, said told to say we're an academic would be somebody who actually. Learned about these things and has information on it.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[So you think people may need to, uh, hear more scientific facts and maybe believe? Believe it from uh academic person more.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Yeah, the scientific facts in the late lay peoples. Language.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK. Do you think of any kind of upcoming policies or plans is available or is, I mean are they planning for any other policies for the future in Alaska about vaccine? In like maybe another COVID will happen, another virus will come up and do you think is there any upcoming policies or planning for that?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Not that I'm aware of, but I think everybody's philosophy now is, well, there's going to be another something or other coming up because we had the flu and then we have the vaccine every year and it stopped coming in here. And then now we're adding COVID to the flu and then something else is going to come up and there's just going to be something every year. So everybody is pretty much aware that something else is going to come down the Pike eventually.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[OK, OK. And OK, thank you for the question. Is there anything else you would like to add about the like influence of social media on vaccine hesitancy or any kind of experience that you had during vaccination during COVID totally?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Uh, no, it's, well, social media, I think just goes way too out there. When it's like, uh, well, I guess on the pushing vaccine side on the, you know, hesitancy of vaccine side is kind of. Getting pushed by the wayside. So either you're like getting pushed to go get vaccinated, or you don't really hear much of anything. That's been my experience. You're not really hearing, so you're the hesitant people are people that are just like, well, do I really want to listen to what, you know, all these people are telling me, do they know what they're talking about? Or or should I just continue going on with what I've been doing?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[I say yeah. And as you know, in lots of countries, vaccine COVID vaccine was obligatory and people it was a must for all people to get the vaccine. Like just like in my my own country it was it was obligatory and if we.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Uh-huh. Yeah.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Is for example, a doctor said. People that OK, I'm against vaccine police make comment. Arrest him. So it was obligatory. And do you think it can be a good strategy in Alaska?](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[To be to be no, I don't know. I don't think that's a good strategy at all. That's how it was when I got my vaccine, I had to get the vaccine and the first booster or I didn't have.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[A job.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[And my but the rest of my family all live in small towns in the lower 48 and they didn't get the vaccine and not one of them's been sick.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 1](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Hmm. I see. Yeah. OK. Thank you very much for your time and thank you. I think I. I'm not sure if I have your phone number or not for the payment. Would you please give it to me one more time? Yeah, it's 61461.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Speaker 2](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Oh. No problem.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)

[Thank you. You too. Bye bye.](https://1drv.ms/u/s!ABaWM2KXgqSGqRQ)