

Important: COVID-19 Vaccine Information

We want to ensure that you stay informed about the developments surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine. Below you will find the latest information (as 3/2/2021) provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including answers to some of the most frequently asked questions (FAQs). If you have additional questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to us at **800.648.7563**.



Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

Because COVID-19 is a new disease with new vaccines, information is rapidly emerging about how vaccines can help us stop the pandemic. CDC will update this page with more information about what we know—and what we don't know—as it becomes available. [Learn more facts about COVID-19 vaccines.](#)

Currently, three vaccines are authorized and recommended to prevent COVID-19. [Learn more about the different COVID-19 vaccines](#) here.

Help stop the pandemic by getting vaccinated

What we know

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are effective at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccination is an important tool to help us get back to normal. [Learn more about the benefits of getting vaccinated.](#)

COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. It typically takes a few weeks after vaccination for the body to build protection (immunity) against the virus that causes COVID-19. That means it is possible a person could still get COVID-19 just after vaccination. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

There are steps you can take to protect yourself until you can get vaccinated. Even after you get vaccinated it's important to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Even after vaccination, take steps to [protect yourself and others from COVID-19.](#)

What we do not know

Although COVID-19 vaccines are effective at keeping you from getting sick, scientists are still learning how well vaccines prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to others, even if you do not get sick.

If you are vaccinated against COVID-19, you may still be exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19. After exposure, people can be infected with or "carry" the virus that causes COVID-19 but not feel sick or have any symptoms. Experts call this "asymptomatic infection."

For this reason, even after vaccination, we need to continue using all the [tools available to help stop this pandemic](#) as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe

Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines, and these vaccines have undergone the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe. These vaccines cannot give you COVID-19. [Learn more facts about COVID-19 vaccines.](#)

CDC has developed a new tool, **v-safe**, to help us quickly find any safety issues with COVID-19 vaccines. V-safe is a smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines. [Learn how the federal government is working to ensure the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.](#)

You may have side effects after vaccination, but these are normal. After COVID-19 vaccination, you may have some side effects. These are normal signs that your body is building protection. The side effects from COVID-19 vaccination, such as chills or tiredness, may affect your ability to do daily activities, and they should go away in a few days. [Learn more about what to expect after getting vaccinated.](#)

In the coming months, vaccines will become widely available

Although the vaccine supply is currently limited, the federal government is working toward making vaccines widely available for everyone at no cost. [Learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines get to you and who should get vaccinated first when supplies are limited.](#)

The federal government is providing the vaccine free of charge to people living in the United States. However, your vaccination provider may bill your insurance company, Medicaid, or Medicare for an administration fee. Vaccination providers can be reimbursed for this by the patient's public or private insurance company or, for uninsured patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund. No one can be denied a vaccine if they are unable to pay the vaccine administration fee.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html>



Additional COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs

How much will the COVID-19 vaccine cost?

There will be no cost to members for the COVID-19 vaccine.

How many doses of the COVID-19 vaccine do I need?

The Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech vaccines, which are mRNA vaccines, require 2 doses. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which is a viral vector vaccine, is a single dose vaccine.

Are there special considerations on who should get the COVID-19 vaccine first?

While CDC makes recommendations for who should be offered COVID-19 vaccine first, each state has its own plan for vaccine prioritization, distribution, and allocation. Contact your state or local health department for more information on their planning for COVID-19 vaccines.

Do I need a COVID-19 vaccine if I have already had COVID-19 and recovered?

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that reinfection with COVID-19 is possible, you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 infection. Talk to your doctor if you are unsure what treatments you received or if you have more questions about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Should I get the COVID-19 vaccine if I have had an allergic reaction to other types of vaccines?

If you have had an immediate allergic reaction—even if it was not severe—to a vaccine or injectable therapy for another disease, ask your doctor if you should get a COVID-19 vaccine. Your doctor will help you decide if it is safe for you to get vaccinated. Neither the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines contain eggs, latex, or preservatives, but it is recommended you discuss with your doctor if it is safe for you.

What can I do now to help protect myself from getting COVID-19?

Continue to wear a mask, stand 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often. Even if you have received 2 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine you should continue with these precautions. COVID-19 vaccination and following the CDC's recommendations will offer the best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19.

As vaccine availability increases, vaccination recommendations will expand to include more groups

The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as large quantities of vaccine are available. As vaccine supply increases but remains limited, ACIP will expand the groups recommended for vaccination.

**This information is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical diagnosis or treatment. Secure Health is not involved in vaccine administration decision making or allocation planning. Please contact your local or state public health department for the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccine.

For more FAQs relating to the COVID-19 vaccine, please visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>
[https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-vaccines](https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-vaccines)

For more information on COVID-19 visit:

www.cdc.gov
<https://www.coronavirus.gov/>
<https://www.who.int/>