

FAQ



Here you will find answers to frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine. Stay informed and get the latest updates from trusted sources, like your healthcare team.

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1. When and where can I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Your trusted healthcare team can tell you when and where you'll be able to get a COVID-19 vaccine. When you get vaccinated, you'll receive a vaccination card or printout that tells you what COVID-19 vaccine you received, the date you received it, and where you received it.

It should also tell you when you need to get the second shot. The second shot is needed in order for the vaccine to work. Remember, it takes time for your body to build protection after any vaccination. COVID-19 vaccines that require 2 shots may not protect you until a week or two after your second shot

2. Do I have to pay for a COVID-19 vaccine?

No. The COVID-19 vaccine will be given to Americans at no cost.

3. How many shots of COVID-19 vaccine will I need?

Currently, you'll need two shots of COVID-19 vaccine to get the most protection.

4. How long does it take to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Like other vaccines, it should only take a few minutes to get the shot. However, you'll be monitored for 30 minutes after getting the shot, so plan accordingly, especially if you need help getting to and from your vaccine appointment.

5. Do I need to wear a mask when I receive a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. It is recommended people wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth during the pandemic.

6. What are the side effects of a COVID-19 vaccine?

After COVID-19 vaccination, you may have some side effects. This is a normal sign that your body is building protection. Side effects should go away in a few days. Talk to your doctor about ways to reduce pain and discomfort from side effects.



Common side effects of the vaccine:

- **On the arm where you got the shot:** Pain, Swelling
- **Throughout the rest of your body:** Fever, Chills, Tiredness, Headache

7. Is it normal to feel side effects, like arm soreness and fever, after getting a vaccine?

Yes. These side effects are known as the reactogenicity of a vaccine. It's usually a sign your immune system is building protection- it is "reacting" to the vaccine the way it is supposed to. Health experts say you may feel more side effects with a COVID-19 vaccine compared to other vaccines. This is not dangerous, just unpleasant.

8. Should I get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have allergies?

There is a small chance the vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction would usually occur within a few minutes to one hour after getting a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. You will be monitored for any signs of allergic reactions after receiving a dose of the vaccine. Talk to your trusted doctor about any concerns or questions.

You should not get a COVID-19 vaccine if you:

- Had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of the vaccine
- Had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of the vaccine

9. Will a COVID-19 vaccine interfere with any of the medicines I routinely take?

This is hard to answer without knowing a persons' exact medications. Talk to your doctor about all your medications and any interaction concerns you have.

10. What happens if I choose not to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

If you don't get a vaccine, you are not immune. You run the risk of getting the virus and becoming ill.

11. If I've already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes, it is strongly recommended you get a COVID-19 vaccine. Currently, there is not enough information available to say if or for how long after infection a person is protected from getting COVID-19 again.

Source: CDC, FDA