



# Don't hesitate, vaccinate

## Vaccines for COVID-19

Pfizer and Moderna are the first manufacturers to develop COVID-19 vaccines in the United States. The vaccines teach your immune system to recognize and destroy the COVID-19 virus before it can infect you. Both vaccines were found to be more than 94% effective (94 out of 100 people), based on results from clinical trials.

## Can the vaccines cause COVID-19?

No. The vaccines do not contain any live or dead COVID-19 virus. After getting the vaccine, it takes a few weeks for your body to become immune to COVID-19. It is possible to catch the virus during this time, but this is not due to the vaccine.

## How safe are these vaccines?

Vaccines must meet strict safety standards. All of the usual steps have been taken to ensure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe, pure and effective. The number of people in the COVID-19 vaccine trials is the same as for other vaccines and included people from diverse backgrounds. Also, data from prior coronavirus epidemics helped inform scientists about the safe development of the COVID-19 vaccine.

## Are there any side effects?

Some people may have a fever, chills, body aches or a headache. These usually improve after 24 hours.

## Is there pork in the vaccines?

No, there are no pork products in the vaccines.

## What about fetal tissue?

There is no fetal tissue in the vaccines.

## Can the vaccine cause infertility?

No.

## Will I still need to wear a mask?

Yes. After getting the vaccine, it is still important to wear a mask (per state guidelines), wash your hands, stay home if you are ill and avoid big groups of people.

## What if I have a history of allergic reactions?

If you've had an allergic reaction to a vaccine or injection, ask your healthcare provider if you can get the vaccine.

## What if I am pregnant or breastfeeding?

Please talk to your healthcare provider about the risks and benefits of getting the vaccine.

## How old do I need to be to get the vaccine?

You must be at least 16 years old. (A vaccine for children under age 16 is currently being studied.)

## What if I already had COVID-19?

People who have tested positive for COVID-19 produce antibodies, but we don't know enough yet about how long the antibodies last. Therefore, we recommend that everyone who is offered a vaccine get one.

- **If you currently have COVID-19 symptoms:** Wait until your symptoms have gone away and you have been away from others for 14 days before getting a vaccine.
- **If you had a positive test result:** Consider waiting until it has been 90 days since you had your test before getting a vaccine.

## Do I have to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

So far, no company or organization in the United States is requiring people to get the vaccine.

## Why should I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

COVID-19 can cause serious illness and death. **Getting the vaccine helps protect yourself, your loved ones, and your community.**

## How can I get vaccinated?

COVID-19 vaccines currently require two injections (shots). After the first shot, you'll need to come back 3 to 4 weeks later to get a second shot. It is very important to get both shots to be fully protected. Although there is no cost for the COVID-19 vaccine, your insurance may be billed an administration fee.

## Learn more and stay up to date

As more details come out about the vaccine, be aware that not everything you see or hear on the internet will be true. Use information from trusted medical sources that rely on science and facts:

- [mhealthfairview.org/covid19](https://mhealthfairview.org/covid19)
- [health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html](https://health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html)