

COVID-19 VACCINATION WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Have questions? That's okay. Now is the time to get the facts.

Getting back to the moments we miss starts with getting informed.

How do COVID-19 vaccines protect us?

- When we get vaccinated against COVID-19, it activates our immune response without the danger of an actual infection. This helps our bodies learn to fight off a virus.
- It's not possible to get COVID-19 from a vaccine. Most vaccines for COVID-19 teach your body to protect against a harmless spike-shaped protein (without using the virus at all).
- COVID-19 can be life-threatening, which is why it's important for everyone who's eligible to get immunized as vaccines become available.



How will most people feel after getting immunized against COVID-19?

- It's normal to experience some discomfort after getting a vaccine. These signals may include soreness or some swelling in your arm. You may also feel tired, have a headache, fever, or chills. Ask your doctor if you have questions.
- These signals actually mean the vaccine is working – and your body is creating a protective immune response without any danger of getting a COVID-19 infection.

How are vaccines tested before I get them?

- Because vaccines are given to millions of people to prevent serious diseases, they're held to very high safety standards before they're authorized by the FDA.
- The clinical trials for COVID-19 vaccines were as big and thorough as recent studies for other licensed vaccines.

- Medical experts also made sure that the trials for COVID-19 vaccines included adults of diverse backgrounds, races, ethnicities, and underlying conditions.

Should I get vaccinated if I have pre-existing conditions like hypertension, high blood pressure, etc.?

- Yes, vaccination is an important consideration for adults of any age with certain health concerns like hypertension and high blood pressure because they may be at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19.
- People with these underlying medical conditions can receive COVID-19 vaccines provided they have not had an immediate or severe allergic reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine or to any of the ingredients in the vaccine.

Why should I get vaccinated?

- Getting immunized against COVID-19 will protect most people from getting sick or becoming seriously ill.
- Protecting yourself also helps protect the people around you, including those who are most vulnerable.
- Getting immunized is important because COVID-19 can have serious and life-threatening complications.

Where can I get the vaccines?

- [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) has information about eligibility by state.

How quickly can vaccines help us get back to our lives?

- Once enough people get vaccinated, experts are hopeful we can end this pandemic as we know it in this country.
- Until then, we should all keep doing the things that help protect against the virus as people are getting vaccinated.
- This includes wearing a mask, continuing to practice social distancing, and washing your hands frequently.

Have more questions? Visit [GetVaccineAnswers.org](https://www.getvaccineanswers.org)



COVID Collaborative



[buncombeready.org](https://www.buncombeready.org)

