

COVID-19 vaccine questions and answers

Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?

No, the vaccines only include a tiny part of the virus, so you cannot get the COVID-19 virus from the vaccine.

Will I have an allergic reaction to the vaccine?

With any vaccine for any virus, rare allergic reactions can occur. If you have had a previous allergic reaction to a vaccination, talk to your doctor.

Can pregnant women, women wanting to become pregnant or who are breastfeeding get the vaccine?

Yes, they are eligible to get the vaccine. If you are pregnant or trying to become pregnant, you should discuss COVID-19 vaccinations with your doctor. Studies have found that healthy women who are pregnant are especially at risk of severe COVID-19.

Should I get the vaccine if I have diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease or another underlying condition?

Yes, vaccinations, whether for COVID-19, flu or pneumonia, are important for adults with certain underlying medical conditions because of their increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

How long does vaccine protection last?

It's not clear how long the protection lasts from the vaccines. Researchers are learning more every day about natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity.

Should children get vaccinated?

The Pfizer vaccine has been authorized for ages 16 and up. The Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are currently approved for ages 18 and up. Several vaccine manufacturers have pediatric clinical trials underway.



If I currently have COVID-19, can I get vaccinated?

No. If you currently have COVID-19, you should wait until you recover to get vaccinated. Talk to your doctor about when you should receive the vaccine.

If I have recovered from COVID-19, should I get vaccinated?

Yes. If you have already had COVID-19, you may have some natural immunity from the virus. But it is unclear how long this immunity lasts. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) recommends that people who had COVID-19 get vaccinated when it is their turn.

What are variants and does the vaccine protect me from them?

Viruses constantly change, including the novel coronavirus. The COVID-19 vaccines show protection against the current variants, but to keep up with these changes, the vaccines may need to be adapted and we may need additional vaccinations in the future.

Please note the information in this article is accurate as of this printing. The situation surrounding COVID-19 continues to evolve, so please follow updates on [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).



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