

COVID-19 Vaccine Questions & Answers



What are the side effects of COVID-19 Vaccine?

Side effects are different for each person. Side effects can affect your ability to do daily activities. Side effects should go away in a few days.

Common side effects:

On the arm where you got the shot:

- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling



Throughout the rest of your body:

- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills



What are ways to help reduce my pain and discomfort from the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Where you got the shot:

- Apply a clean, cool, wet washcloth over the area
- Use or exercise your arm



Reduce discomfort from fever:

- Drink plenty of fluids
- Dress lightly



What do you need to know about each COVID-19 Vaccine?

Vaccine Type	Number of Shots	More Information
Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine	2	FDA: Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine	2	FDA: Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine
Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine	1	FDA: Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine

You should get your second shot even if you have side effects after the first shot. If you have side effects, talk to your vaccination provider or doctor.

How long does it take for your body to build up protection after your COVID-19 vaccination?

- It takes time for your body to build protection after any vaccination.
- COVID-19 vaccines that require 2 shots may not protect you until about 2 weeks after your second shot.
- For COVID-19 vaccines that require 1 shot, it takes about 2 weeks after vaccination for your body to build protection.

Will you be 100% protected from getting COVID again?

This is unknown at this time.

What can I do once I have had my COVID vaccine and waited the 2 weeks required?

- You can be inside without a mask with people who have had a vaccine. For more information about the group size [check the the State of Minnesota website by clicking here.](#)
- You can be inside with people who have not had a vaccine with one other household. For example, if you are visiting relatives who all live together you can visit without masks, if there is no one in that household that has an increased risk for severe illness.

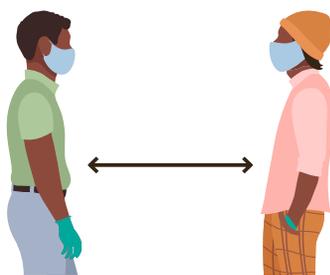


What are ways to continue to stay safe from COVID-19?

Wear a Mask



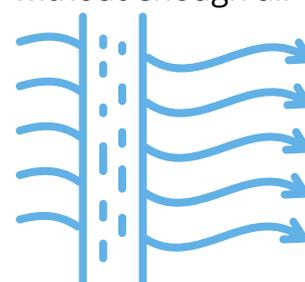
Stay 6 feet apart from others.



Avoid large crowds.



Avoid inside spaces without enough air flow.



- Take precautions when:
 - You are in public.
 - You are with people who are not vaccinated.
 - You are with people from more than one household.
 - You are with someone who is not vaccinated and is at increased risk of severe illness.
- You should avoid medium or large-sized gatherings.
- You should still delay domestic and international travel. If you do travel, you'll still need to follow CDC [requirements and recommendations.](#)

What should you do if you have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19?

You should watch for COVID-19 symptoms. Symptoms can occur 2-14 days after being in contact with someone who has COVID-19. [Here is a link to common symptoms.](#)

What should you do if you have symptoms of COVID-19?



You should stay home and stay away from others.
You should get tested for COVID-19.

Are you 100% protected from COVID?

No.

When can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

In Minnesota, starting March 30th, 2021 anyone over the age of 16 is able to get a COVID-19 Vaccine. You might not get one right away and may be on a waiting list.



Where can I get the vaccine?

Use [Vaccine Connector](#) to help find a place and time to get a COVID-19 vaccine. You will have to fill out a simple form using the Vaccine Connector.



Do I have to have health insurance to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

No.

Do I have to pay for the COVID-19 vaccine?

No, it is free.

Are you required to get the vaccine?

In Minnesota, you are not required to have a COVID-19 vaccine.

Does getting the vaccine protect others?

Getting the COVID-19 vaccine adds one more layer of protection for you and others. Building defenses against COVID-19 in your community is a team effort. You are a key part of that defense.

If I am pregnant can I be vaccinated?

Yes, if you are pregnant, you might choose to be vaccinated. Based on how COVID-19 vaccines work, experts think they are unlikely to pose a specific risk for people who are pregnant.

[Click here to learn more information about COVID-19 vaccine for people who are pregnant from the CDC.](#)

Can everyone get the COVID-19 vaccine?

People over the age of 16 are eligible to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

If you have concerns or questions about your personal health and allergies, consult your doctor.

[For more information visit the CDC website by clicking here.](#)

How effective is the vaccine?

- COVID-19 vaccines are **safe and effective**.
- COVID-19 vaccines were given to thousands of people in clinical trials.
- The vaccines met Federal Drug Administration standards for safety and effectiveness.

All answers came from the CDC, WHO, and MN Department of Health websites.

Image credit: CDC COVID-19 Toolkit and Canva

CDC: www.cdc.gov

WHO: www.who.int

MN Department of Health: www.health.state.mn.us

