

What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

Accessible version: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.html>

COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19. You may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. These side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects.

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
- Fever
- Nausea

Helpful tips

If you have pain or discomfort after getting your vaccine, talk to your doctor about taking an over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

To reduce pain and discomfort where you got the shot:

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

To reduce discomfort from fever:

- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Dress lightly.

When to call the doctor

In most cases, discomfort from fever or pain is normal. Contact your doctor or healthcare provider:

- If the redness or tenderness where you got the shot increases after 24 hours
- If your side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days

Remember

- Side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.
- With some COVID-19 vaccines, you will need 2 shots in order to get the most protection. You should get the second shot even if you have side effects after the first shot, unless a vaccination provider or your doctor tells you not to get it.
- You will only need 1 shot of the viral vector COVID-19 vaccine, Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine.
- 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 two weeks after your second shot. For COVID-19 vaccines that require 1 shot, it takes about two weeks after vaccination for your body to build protection.
- After you are fully vaccinated, you may be able to start doing some things you had stopped doing because of the pandemic. Visit CDC's website for the latest recommendations. www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines.



Ask your vaccination provider about getting started with v-safe

Use your smartphone to tell CDC about any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. You'll also get reminders if you need a second dose

Learn more about **v-safe**.

www.cdc.gov/vsafe

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER, PLEASE FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW:

If your temperature is ____°F or ____°C or higher or if you have questions, call your healthcare provider.

Tell your healthcare provider about: _____

Healthcare provider phone number: _____

Medication (if needed):

Take _____ every ____ hours as needed.

(type and dose or amount)



cdc.gov/coronavirus



**Get vaccinated.
Get your smartphone.
Get started with v-safe.**

What is v-safe?

V-safe is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Through **v-safe**, you can quickly tell CDC if you have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Depending on your answers, someone from CDC may call to check on you. And **v-safe** will remind you to get your second COVID-19 vaccine dose if you need one.

Your participation in CDC's **v-safe** makes a difference—it helps keep COVID-19 vaccines safe.

How can I participate?

Once you get a COVID-19 vaccine, you can enroll in **v-safe** using your smartphone. Participation is voluntary and you can opt out at any time. You will receive text messages from **v-safe** around 2 p.m. local time. To opt out, simply text "STOP" when **v-safe** sends you a text message. You can also start **v-safe** again by texting "START."

How long do v-safe check-ins last?

During the first week after you get your vaccine, **v-safe** will send you a text message each day to ask how you are doing. Then you will get check-in messages once a week for up to 5 weeks. The questions **v-safe** asks should take less than 5 minutes to answer. If you need a second dose of vaccine, **v-safe** will provide a new 6-week check-in process so you can share your second-dose vaccine experience as well. You'll also receive check-ins 3, 6, and 12 months after your final dose of vaccine.

Is my health information safe?

Yes. Your personal information in **v-safe** is protected so that it stays confidential and private.*



Use your smartphone to tell CDC about any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. You'll also get reminders if you need a second vaccine dose.



Sign up with your smartphone's browser at vsafe.cdc.gov

OR

Aim your smartphone's camera at this code



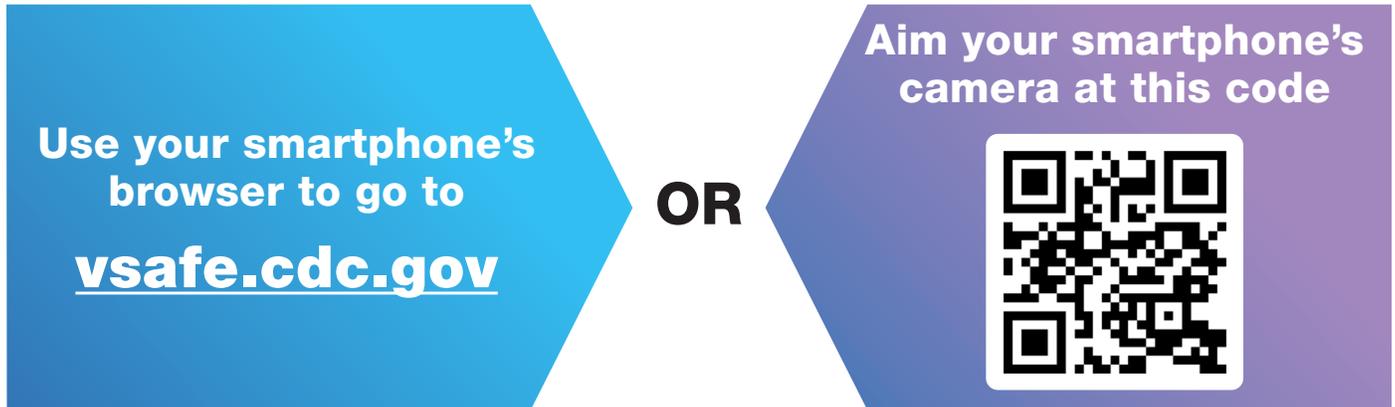
*To the extent **v-safe** uses existing information systems managed by CDC, FDA, and other federal agencies, the systems employ strict security measures appropriate for the data's level of sensitivity.

How to register and use v-safe

You will need your smartphone and information about the COVID-19 vaccine you received. This information can be found on your vaccination record card; if you cannot find your card, please contact your healthcare provider.

Register

1. Go to the **v-safe** website using one of the two options below:



2. Read the instructions. Click **Get Started**.
3. Enter your name, mobile number, and other requested information. Click **Register**.
4. You will receive a text message with a verification code on your smartphone. Enter the code in **v-safe** and click **Verify**.
5. At the top of the screen, click **Enter vaccine information**.
6. Select which COVID-19 vaccine you received (found on your vaccination record card; if you cannot find your card, please contact your healthcare provider). Then enter the date you were vaccinated. Click **Next**.
7. Review your vaccine information. If correct, click **Submit**. If not, click **Go Back**.
8. **Congrats! You're all set!** If you complete your registration before 2 p.m. local time, **v-safe** will start your initial health check-in around 2pm that day. If you register after 2 p.m., **v-safe** will start your initial health check-in immediately after you register — just follow the instructions.

You will receive a reminder text message from **v-safe** when it's time for the next check-in — around 2 p.m. local time. Just click the link in the text message to start the check-in.

Complete a v-safe health check-in

1. When you receive a **v-safe** check-in text message on your smartphone, click the link when ready.
2. Follow the instructions to complete the check-in.

Troubleshooting

How can I come back and finish a check-in later if I'm interrupted?

- Click the link in the text message reminder to restart and complete your check-in.

How do I update my vaccine information after my second COVID-19 vaccine dose?

- **V-safe** will automatically ask you to update your second dose information. Just follow the instructions.

Need help with v-safe?

Call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)

TTY 888-232-6348

Open 24 hours, 7 days a week

Visit www.cdc.gov/vsafe



**VACCINE INFORMATION FACT SHEET FOR RECIPIENTS AND CAREGIVERS
ABOUT THE PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE TO PREVENT
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) FOR USE IN INDIVIDUALS
5 THROUGH 11 YEARS OF AGE**

FOR 5 THROUGH 11 YEARS OF AGE

Your child is being offered the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by SARS-CoV-2.

This Vaccine Information Fact Sheet for Recipients and Caregivers comprises the Fact Sheet for the authorized Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for use in individuals 5 through 11 years of age.¹

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine has received EUA from FDA to provide a two-dose primary series to individuals 5 through 11 years of age.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine has also received EUA from FDA to provide a third primary series dose to individuals 5 through 11 years of age who have been determined to have certain kinds of immunocompromise.

This Vaccine Information Fact Sheet contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, which your child may receive because there is currently a pandemic of COVID-19. Talk to your child's vaccination provider if you have questions.

This Fact Sheet may have been updated. For the most recent Fact Sheet, please see www.cvdvaccine.com.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOUR CHILD GETS THIS VACCINE

WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 disease is caused by a coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2. You can get COVID-19 through contact with another person who has the virus. It is predominantly a respiratory illness that can affect other organs. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness leading to death. Symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include: fever or chills; cough; shortness of breath; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.

¹ You may receive this Vaccine Information Fact Sheet even if your child is 12 years old. Children who will turn from 11 years to 12 years of age between their first and second dose in the primary regimen may receive, for either dose, either: (1) the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine authorized for use in individuals 5 through 11 years of age; or (2) COMIRNATY (COVID-19 Vaccine, mRNA) or the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine authorized for use in individuals 12 years of age and older.

For more information on EUA, see the “**What is an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)?**” section at the end of this Fact Sheet.

WHAT SHOULD YOU MENTION TO YOUR CHILD’S VACCINATION PROVIDER BEFORE YOUR CHILD GETS THE VACCINE?

Tell the vaccination provider about all of your child’s medical conditions, including if your child:

- has any allergies
- has had myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) or pericarditis (inflammation of the lining outside the heart)
- has a fever
- has a bleeding disorder or is on a blood thinner
- is immunocompromised or is on a medicine that affects your child’s immune system
- is pregnant
- is breastfeeding
- has received another COVID-19 vaccine
- has ever fainted in association with an injection

HOW IS THE VACCINE GIVEN?

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine will be given to your child as an injection into the muscle.

The vaccine is administered as a 2-dose series, 3 weeks apart. A third primary series dose may be administered at least 28 days after the second dose to individuals who are determined to have certain kinds of immunocompromise.

The vaccine may not protect everyone.

WHO SHOULD NOT GET THE VACCINE?

Your child should not get the vaccine if your child:

- had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of this vaccine
- had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of this vaccine.

WHAT ARE THE INGREDIENTS IN THE VACCINE?

The vaccine includes the following ingredients: mRNA, lipids ((4-hydroxybutyl)azanediyl)bis(hexane-6,1-diyl)bis(2-hexyldecanoate), 2 [(polyethylene glycol)-2000]-N,N-ditetradecylacetamide, 1,2-Distearoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine, and cholesterol), tromethamine, tromethamine hydrochloride, sucrose, and sodium chloride.

HAS THE VACCINE BEEN USED BEFORE?

Millions of individuals 12 years of age and older have received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine under EUA since December 11, 2020. In a clinical trial, approximately 3,100 individuals 5 through 11 years of age have received at least 1 dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. In other clinical trials, approximately 23,000 individuals 12 years of age and older have received at least 1 dose of the vaccine. The vaccine that is authorized for use in children 5 through 11 years of age

includes the same mRNA and lipids but different inactive ingredients compared to the vaccine that has been used under EUA in individuals 12 years of age and older and that has been studied in clinical trials. The use of the different inactive ingredients helps stabilize the vaccine under refrigerated temperatures and the formulation can be readily prepared to deliver appropriate doses to the 5 through 11 year-old population.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE VACCINE?

The vaccine has been shown to prevent COVID-19.

The duration of protection against COVID-19 is currently unknown.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF THE VACCINE?

There is a remote chance that 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 the vaccine. For this reason, your child's vaccination provider may ask your child to stay at the place where your child received the vaccine for monitoring after vaccination. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include:

- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling of the face and throat
- A fast heartbeat
- A bad rash all over the body
- Dizziness and weakness

Myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the lining outside the heart) have occurred in some people who have received the vaccine. In most of these people, symptoms began within a few days following receipt of the second dose of vaccine. The chance of having this occur is very low. You should seek medical attention right away if your child has any of the following symptoms after receiving the vaccine:

- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Feelings of having a fast-beating, fluttering, or pounding heart

Side effects that have been reported with the vaccine include:

- severe allergic reactions
- non-severe allergic reactions such as rash, itching, hives, or swelling of the face
- myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle)
- pericarditis (inflammation of the lining outside the heart)
- injection site pain
- tiredness
- headache
- muscle pain

- chills
- joint pain
- fever
- injection site swelling
- injection site redness
- nausea
- feeling unwell
- swollen lymph nodes (lymphadenopathy)
- decreased appetite
- diarrhea
- vomiting
- arm pain
- fainting in association with injection of the vaccine

These may not be all the possible side effects of the vaccine. Serious and unexpected side effects may occur. The possible side effects of the vaccine are still being studied in clinical trials.

WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT SIDE EFFECTS?

If your child experiences a severe allergic reaction, call 9-1-1, or go to the nearest hospital.

Call the vaccination provider or your child’s healthcare provider if your child has any side effects that bother your child or do not go away.

Report vaccine side effects to FDA/CDC Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). The VAERS toll-free number is 1-800-822-7967 or report online to <https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html>. Please include “Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine EUA” in the first line of box #18 of the report form.

In addition, you can report side effects to Pfizer Inc. at the contact information provided below.

Website	Fax number	Telephone number
www.pfizersafetyreporting.com	1-866-635-8337	1-800-438-1985

You may also be given an option to enroll in v-safe. V-safe is a new voluntary smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to check in with people who have been vaccinated to identify potential side effects after COVID-19 vaccination. V-safe asks questions that help CDC monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines. V-safe also provides second-dose reminders if needed and live telephone follow-up by CDC if participants report a significant health impact following COVID-19 vaccination. For more information on how to sign up, visit: www.cdc.gov/vsafe.

WHAT IF I DECIDE NOT TO HAVE MY CHILD GET THE PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE?

Under the EUA, there is an option to accept or refuse receiving the vaccine. Should you decide for your child not to receive it, it will not change your child's standard medical care.

ARE OTHER CHOICES AVAILABLE FOR PREVENTING COVID-19 BESIDES PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE?

For children 5 through 11 years of age, there are no other COVID-19 vaccines available under Emergency Use Authorization and there are no approved COVID-19 vaccines.

CAN MY CHILD RECEIVE THE PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE AT THE SAME TIME AS OTHER VACCINES?

Data have not yet been submitted to FDA on administration of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine at the same time with other vaccines. If you are considering to have your child receive the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine with other vaccines, discuss the options with your child's healthcare provider.

WHAT IF MY CHILD IS IMMUNOCOMPROMISED?

If your child is immunocompromised, you may be given the option to have your child receive a third dose of the vaccine. The third dose may still not provide full immunity to COVID-19 in people who are immunocompromised, and you should continue to have your child maintain physical precautions to help prevent COVID-19. In addition, your child's close contacts should be vaccinated as appropriate.

WHAT ABOUT PREGNANCY OR BREASTFEEDING?

If your child is pregnant or breastfeeding, discuss the options with your healthcare provider.

WILL THE VACCINE GIVE MY CHILD COVID-19?

No. The vaccine does not contain SARS-CoV-2 and cannot give your child COVID-19.

KEEP YOUR CHILD'S VACCINATION CARD

When your child gets the first dose, you will get a vaccination card to show when to return for your child's next dose(s) of the vaccine. Remember to bring the card when your child returns.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions, visit the website or call the telephone number provided below.

To access the most recent Fact Sheets, please scan the QR code provided below.

Global website	Telephone number
<p data-bbox="315 415 621 443">www.cvdvaccine.com</p> 	<p data-bbox="951 489 1219 558">1-877-829-2619 (1-877-VAX-CO19)</p>

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

- Ask the vaccination provider.
- Visit CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.
- Visit FDA at <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization>.
- Contact your local or state public health department.

WHERE WILL MY CHILD'S VACCINATION INFORMATION BE RECORDED?

The vaccination provider may include your child's vaccination information in your state/local jurisdiction's Immunization Information System (IIS) or other designated system. This will ensure that your child receives the same vaccine when your child returns for the second dose. For more information about IISs visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/programs/iis/about.html>.

CAN I BE CHARGED AN ADMINISTRATION FEE FOR RECEIPT OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

No. At this time, the provider cannot charge you for a vaccine dose and you cannot be charged an out-of-pocket vaccine administration fee or any other fee if only receiving a COVID-19 vaccination. However, vaccination providers may seek appropriate reimbursement from a program or plan that covers COVID-19 vaccine administration fees for the vaccine recipient (private insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, Health Resources & Services Administration [HRSA] COVID-19 Uninsured Program for non-insured recipients).

WHERE CAN I REPORT CASES OF SUSPECTED FRAUD?

Individuals becoming aware of any potential violations of the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program requirements are encouraged to report them to the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at 1-800-HHS-TIPS or <https://TIPS.HHS.GOV>.

WHAT IS THE COUNTERMEASURES INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM?

The Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program (CICP) is a federal program that may help pay for costs of medical care and other specific expenses of certain people

who have been seriously injured by certain medicines or vaccines, including this vaccine. Generally, a claim must be submitted to the CICP within one (1) year from the date of receiving the vaccine. To learn more about this program, visit www.hrsa.gov/cicp/ or call 1-855-266-2427.

WHAT IS AN EMERGENCY USE AUTHORIZATION (EUA)?

An Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) is a mechanism to facilitate the availability and use of medical products, including vaccines, during public health emergencies, such as the current COVID-19 pandemic. An EUA is supported by a Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) declaration that circumstances exist to justify the emergency use of drugs and biological products during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The FDA may issue an EUA when certain criteria are met, which includes that there are no adequate, approved, available alternatives. In addition, the FDA decision is based on the totality of scientific evidence available showing that the product may be effective to prevent COVID-19 during the COVID-19 pandemic and that the known and potential benefits of the product outweigh the known and potential risks of the product. All of these criteria must be met to allow for the product to be used in the treatment of patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This EUA for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine will end when the Secretary of HHS determines that the circumstances justifying the EUA no longer exist or when there is a change in the approval status of the product such that an EUA is no longer needed.



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BIONTECH

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Scan to capture that this Fact Sheet was provided to vaccine recipient for the electronic medical records/immunization information systems.

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