

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs: Adults



1. What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is an illness caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2. COVID-19 was first identified in 2019.

2. Who is more likely to get very sick from COVID-19?

Adult patients who are more likely to get very sick include people who:

- Are 65 years age or older
- Are pregnant
- Have health problems like heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes
- Have a weakened immune system

3. How can I help protect myself from COVID-19?

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is the best way to help protect yourself.

Other ways to help protect yourself include:

- Washing your hands often
- Staying away from sick people
- Wearing a mask in places that are crowded

4. Who is recommended to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Adults 19 years and older are recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccination is especially crucial for individuals at higher risk, such as those who are age 65 years and older, those with underlying medical conditions or compromised immune systems. Some people may need extra doses for better protection. Talk with your doctor to learn what is right for you.

5. Do COVID-19 vaccines work?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccines help protect people from getting very sick from COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines can also help:

- Lower the chance of going to the hospital
- Make illness less severe if you do get sick
- Reduce the chance of needing urgent or emergency care



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6. Do COVID-19 vaccines have side effects?

Some people may have mild side effects after receiving the vaccines feel tired after getting the vaccine. Others may have:

- Headache
- Muscle aches
- A sore arm
- Fever
- Swollen glands under the arm

These side effects are normal and usually go away in a few days. In rare cases, inflammation around or in the heart has been reported after COVID-19 vaccination, most often in adolescent boys and young men. However, these conditions are more likely to happen after a COVID-19 infection than after vaccination.

7. If I already had COVID-19 this year, should I still get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Getting vaccinated after having COVID-19 can help your body stay protected longer. It can also lower your chance of getting very sick if you get COVID-19 again. Talk with your doctor about the best time to get the vaccine after infection.

8. Can I get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines at the same time?

Yes. Most vaccines can be given at the same visit. Talk with your doctor to see what is right for you.

9. Is there treatment available if I get COVID-19?

Yes. If you have COVID-19 and are more likely to get very sick, treatment may help lower your chance of going to the hospital or dying from the illness. Treatment works best when started soon after symptoms begin. Talk with your doctor as soon as possible if you think you have COVID-19.



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