

What do I need to know to have the COVID-19 vaccine in my home?

Frequently Asked Questions

How will I get my vaccine if I am homebound?

Your home care medicine practice is working with your state and local health departments to determine how to get you the vaccine at home as it becomes available. You must get both doses of the two-dose vaccine from the same provider.



When can my caregiver get a vaccine?

Home care workers and aides will be prioritized with state guidance. Other caregivers must follow the state guidelines.



After I get the vaccine, do I still need to wear a mask when caregivers or family come into my home?

Yes, you should still wear a mask. While the vaccine is very effective in preventing COVID-19 infection, there is still a risk of getting the virus and spreading it to others. We will all need to wear masks until a large portion of the population is vaccinated.



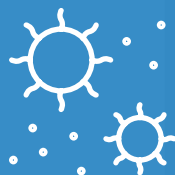
What if I've already had COVID-19?

It is still recommended that you receive the vaccine because scientists are still not certain how long immunity from a COVID infection lasts. You should not get the vaccine if you are currently infected with COVID-19.



Can the vaccine give me COVID-19?

No. The vaccine does not contain live COVID-19 virus. The vaccine will also not change your DNA. The vaccines have been tested in clinical trials with thousands of people of different ages, races, and ethnicities. There were no serious safety concerns.



When and for how long will I be protected?

It takes time for your body to respond to the vaccine. With the two-dose COVID-19 vaccine, you will not be fully protected until 1-2 weeks after the second dose. It is likely you will need a repeat vaccine in the future as we do with other vaccines, but we are still collecting information on how long immunity will last.



What are the possible side effects?

- Allergic reaction: notify your healthcare team if you have had allergic reactions to vaccines in the past. After receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, you will be closely monitored for any reaction.
- Short-term side effects typically last 24-48 hours and include arm pain, fatigue, mild fever, chills, and/or headache.
- Long-term side effects have not been reported. The CDC continues to monitor vaccine safety and adverse reactions.



Is it safe to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have an underlying medical condition?

Yes, the vaccine is safe. In fact, it is especially important for older adults and those with underlying health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, lung disease, and obesity to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. People with these conditions are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19.



Will my home care medicine team get the vaccine?

Phase I of the vaccine roll-out includes distribution to healthcare workers. Your healthcare practitioners will be offered the vaccine. Even after receiving the vaccine, your healthcare providers will wear appropriate personal protective equipment in your home, as recommended by CDC guidelines.

