

COVID-19 Vaccine: Frequently Asked Questions



Key facts about COVID-19 vaccination



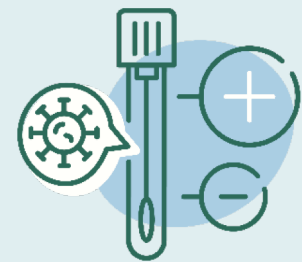
Getting vaccinated
can help prevent
getting sick with
COVID-19



People who have
already gotten sick
with COVID-19 may
still benefit from
getting vaccinated



COVID-19 vaccines
cannot give you
COVID-19



COVID-19 vaccines
will not cause you to
test positive on
COVID-19 tests

What do we know about COVID-19?





COVID-19 Virus



We know that COVID-19 is caused by a virus.



COVID-19 Virus



The virus can make you feel sick.

Symptoms can range from a mild cold to more serious, resulting in hospitalization and death.



COVID-19 Virus

We don't know how the virus
will affect each person.



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 **WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT**
of **HEALTH SERVICES**

COVID-19 Virus



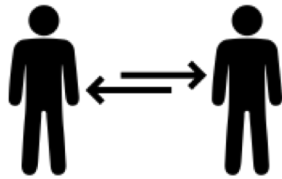
We do know that some people are more likely than others to become very sick.



How can we stop COVID-19?



Tools to stop COVID-19



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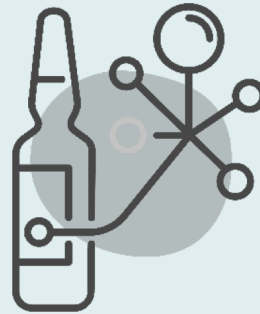


How do COVID-19 vaccines work?

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The vaccines help protect people from COVID-19.



It helps recognize and prepare your body to fight against the virus.



What are mRNA vaccines?



mRNA vaccines create what looks like part of the surface of the virus so our bodies can recognize what COVID-19 looks like.



This process makes our bodies ready to identify and react to that part of the virus. In other words, it prepares our “immune response.”



Through this process, our bodies produce antibodies to protect us from getting sick if we come in contact with the COVID-19 virus.

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What are viral vector vaccines?



“Viral vector” vaccines use a harmless virus (it’s too weak to make you sick) to teach our bodies to know what COVID-19 looks like.



This process makes our bodies ready to identify and react to the virus. In other words, it prepares our “immune response.”



Through this process, our bodies produce antibodies to protect us from getting sick if we come in contact with the COVID-19 virus.



Five things to know about COVID-19 vaccines





Five things to know about COVID-19 vaccine



1. COVID-19 vaccines work
2. COVID-19 vaccines are safe
3. Some vaccines need 1 dose and some need 2 doses – be sure you know which one you’re getting
4. Keep your vaccine records safe
5. COVID-19 vaccines are free



1. COVID-19 vaccines work



Reasons to get the COVID-19 vaccine



People who get the vaccine are **89-100% less likely** to be hospitalized or die from COVID-19.



The vaccines are very effective (**72-95%**) at preventing people from getting sick from the virus.



Getting the vaccine protects you, your family, and your community. Not getting vaccinated leaves you and your family open to catching the virus and getting sick or worse.

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2. COVID-19 vaccines are safe





How do we know the vaccines are safe?

1. They each went through necessary testing for effectiveness and safety.
2. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved each vaccine after it was tested.
3. Even with all the testing and FDA approval, there is ongoing monitoring for any problems or unusual side effects.

Testing, also known as “clinical trials”

The process for getting approval was transparent and rigorous throughout, with continual oversight from medical experts and final approval by the FDA.

Phase 1
20-100 Healthy
Volunteers



Phase 2
Several Hundred
Volunteers



Phase 3
1000+
Volunteers



Phase 4
Vaccine is
Approved





Continuous monitoring



The CDC and FDA track the safety of vaccines after they get authorized or approved:

- [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System \(VAERS\)](#)
- [Vaccine Safety Datalink \(VSD\)](#)
- [Clinical Immunization Safety Assessment \(CISA\)](#)
- [Biologics Effectiveness and Safety System \(BEST\)](#)

CDC's new **V-safe** will make it even easier for people to report any health problems after they get their COVID-19 vaccines.

What vaccine side effects can I expect?



Common side effects include fever, chills, body aches, and soreness at the injection site.



Most side effects go away in a few days. The chance of having a severe side effect is less than 5 in a million.



These side effects are normal. They are a sign that your body is building protection to the virus.



3. Know if you need 1 or 2 doses





Do I need one dose or two?

Vaccine name	Number of doses	Time in between doses
Pfizer	2	3 weeks (21 days)
Moderna	2	1 month (28 days)
Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)	1	N/A



Do You Need A Second Dose?



Before you leave the vaccine clinic, ask:

Do I need to come back for a second dose?

When do I come back?

4. Keep your vaccine record safe



Keeping track of it all



Keep your and your family's vaccine record in a safe, fire proof place (your freezer works great!). You can also take smartphone pictures of your vaccine cards.



You can track all your vaccines, including COVID-19, through the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) at <https://www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/PR/clientSearch.do?language=en>.



5. COVID-19 vaccines are free



Free Vaccine!



You will not pay for the vaccine – it's free!



If you have insurance, you may see a charge from the place you received the vaccine to your health insurance provider. This is for the cost of the administration and is covered by your plan. This charge can't be passed on to you in any way.

If you don't have insurance, you will **not** receive a bill or be asked to pay.



Getting Vaccinated

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After Your Vaccination



You may experience symptoms such as having soreness in the arm that got the vaccine, feeling tired, having a fever.

CDC has good advice at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.html> .



Call your medical provider if your symptoms don't go away or get worse.



Continue to wear a mask, stay 6 feet away from others, and wash your hands.





When are you fully vaccinated?





Fully Vaccinated

You are considered fully vaccinated:

✓ **14 days** after receiving the 2nd dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines

or

✓ **14 days** after receiving a single dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine



After Your Vaccination - In Public

In public, continue to wear a mask, stay 6 feet away from other people, and wash your hands.

More information is on the DHS website:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-after.htm>



After Vaccination - At Work



Fully vaccinated employees without COVID-like symptoms **do not need to quarantine** if they are exposed to someone who has COVID-19.

- This does not apply to certain settings, like congregate and health care



This reduces workplace disruption and the need to use sick leave or other benefits.



It will take time to vaccinate everyone - continue to wear a mask, physically distance, wash hands, etc.

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Where to Get the Vaccine

- Scroll down to “How to make an appointment”
- <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/COVID-19/COVID-19-Vaccine>
- Scroll down and click on “Make an appointment”
- <https://mke-vaccines.egov.com/>
- WI Dept of Health – map of vaccine providers:
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-map.htm>





Additional Resources

- [Walk in vaccinations](#) for Milwaukee residents 16 and over.
- **Many pharmacies such as Walgreens, CVS, Walmart, Meijer, have vaccination clinics at locations across the state.** [Where can I get vaccinated?](#) has more information
 - Or you can [register online](#)





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- If you have side effects from the vaccination you should stay home, rest and take a sick day.
- While MMU does not have an on-site clinic there are many in the community. You may take work hours to go get vaccinated.





Questions?

Call (toll-free):

(844) 684-1064

between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Email:

DHSCOVIDVACCINEPUBLIC@WI.gov

