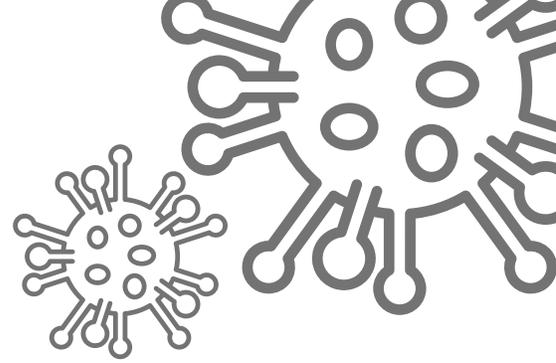
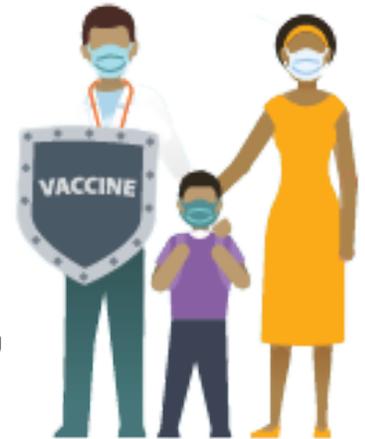


WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE



The safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority. The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are as safe as possible. The CDC has developed a new tool, v-safe, as an additional layer of safety monitoring to increase our ability to rapidly detect any safety issues with COVID-19 vaccines. V-safe is a new smartphone-based, after-vaccination health checker for people who receive COVID-19 vaccines.

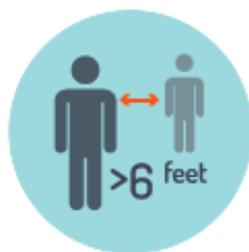


COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19. Two doses are needed. Depending on the specific vaccine you get, a second shot 3-4 weeks after your first shot is needed to get the most protection the vaccine has to offer against this serious disease.

CDC is making recommendations for those who should be offered COVID-19 vaccines while supplies are limited at first. To help guide decisions about how to distribute limited initial supplies of COVID-19 vaccine, CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices have published recommendations for which groups should be vaccinated first. Learn more about who should be vaccinated first at bchdmi.org.

There is currently a limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States, but supply will increase in the weeks and months to come. The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as large enough quantities are available. Once vaccine is widely available, the plan is to have several thousand vaccination providers offering COVID-19 vaccines in doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, hospitals and health centers.

Cost is not an obstacle to getting vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given to the American people at no cost. However, vaccination providers may be able to get charge administration fees for giving the shot. Vaccination providers can get this fee reimbursed by the patient's public or private insurance company or for uninsured patients, by the Health Resources and Services Administrations Provider Relief Fund.



COVID-19 vaccines are one of the many important tools to help us stop this pandemic. It's important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others, stay six feet away from others, avoid crowds and wash hands often.

The first COVID-19 vaccine is being used under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Many other vaccines are still being developed and tested. Learn more about the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization at www.fda.gov. If more COVID-19 vaccines are authorized or approved by the FDA, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will quickly hold meetings to review all available data about each vaccine and make recommendations for their use in the United States. All ACIP-recommended vaccines will be included in the U.S. COVID-19 Vaccination Program.



You should still get the COVID-19 vaccine even if you've had COVID-19. You should still get the COVID-19 vaccine, even if you've had COVID-19. There is not enough information currently available to say if or for how long after infection someone is protected from getting COVID-19 again; this is called natural immunity. Early evidence suggests natural immunity from COVID-19 may not last very long, but more studies are needed to understand this.

The vaccine won't give you COVID-19. No. This vaccine gives your body a code which helps it recognize the virus, so your body can fight it off in the future.

The vaccine does have mild side effects. After the COVID-19 vaccine, you may have some mild side effects. This is a normal sign that your body is building protection. The side effects may feel like flu and might even affect your ability to do daily activities but will go away within a day or so. Your arm may be sore, red, or warm to the touch. You may experience a low-grade fever, headache and just a general feeling of 'not yourself'. These are signs that your immune system is doing exactly what it is supposed to!



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