



COVID-19 Vaccines

What Parents Need to Know

VACCINES PROTECT AGAINST THE WORST OUTCOMES OF COVID.

- Though COVID-19 is usually milder in children, even healthy children can get very sick, go to the hospital, or die from COVID-19. Children can also get long-term mental and physical health problems from COVID-19 (called long COVID).
- The COVID-19 vaccine reduces the risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. It also lowers the risk of getting long COVID.
- The COVID-19 vaccines are updated to protect against more recent strains of the virus.



UPDATED COVID-19 VACCINES ARE RECOMMENDED FOR ALL CHILDREN AGES 6 MONTHS AND OLDER.

- **Children 5 years of age and older** should get a single dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Children 6 months to 4 years of age** should get at least one dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine. They may need additional doses based on how many doses they received before.
- **Children 6 months and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised** should get at least one dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine. They may receive additional doses.
- **Children 12-17 years of age who are unable to receive Pfizer or Moderna vaccine** may receive a monovalent Novavax booster dose at least 2 months after their primary series. The updated Novavax vaccine may be available in the coming months.
- Children who **already had COVID** should still get vaccinated.
- COVID-19 vaccines can be given **at the same time** as other routine vaccines, including flu vaccine. For more information, talk to your doctor or visit [cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccine](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccine).



HOW TO GET A VACCINE

- Visit publichealth.lacounty.gov/vaccines/ to find a site near you. Make sure they have the right vaccine for your child's age and ask about **parent/caregiver consent**. Most pharmacies cannot vaccinate children under 3 years of age.
- Call the DPH Vaccine Call Center at **1-833-540-0473** or **2-1-1** if you need help finding a vaccine, or to request in-home vaccination.
- Vaccines are covered by insurance. If your child is uninsured or meets eligibility criteria, they can receive vaccines for free through the Vaccine For Children Program.





COVID-19 Vaccines

What Parents Need to Know



VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS

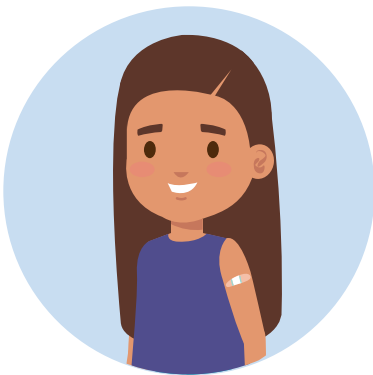
- Your child may have side effects similar to those seen with other routine childhood vaccines. They are usually **mild and will go away** within a few days. Some children have no side effects.
- Common side effects include pain, swelling, or redness in the arm or thigh where the vaccine was given, muscle or joint pain, swollen lymph nodes, fever, chills, headache, irritability or crying, feeling tired, sleepiness, and loss of appetite.

COVID-19 vaccine dosage is based on your child's age, not their size or weight. Children 12+ get the same dose of vaccine as adults.



VACCINE SAFETY

- **COVID-19 vaccines are safe for children.** Before recommending COVID-19 vaccines for children, clinical trials with thousands of children were done to test the safety of the vaccines and how well they worked. Since then, tens of millions of children in the U.S. have been vaccinated.
- COVID-19 vaccines have undergone—and will continue to undergo—the most **intensive safety monitoring** in U.S. history.
- Rare cases of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the outer lining of the heart) have been reported in children after getting a COVID-19 vaccine, mostly in males ages 12 and older. The risk of this happening after vaccination is very rare.
- Your child **cannot get COVID-19** from a COVID-19 vaccine.
- There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines affect development or fertility.



For more details visit [cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccine](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccine).

VaccinateLACounty.com

