



COVID-19 Vaccine

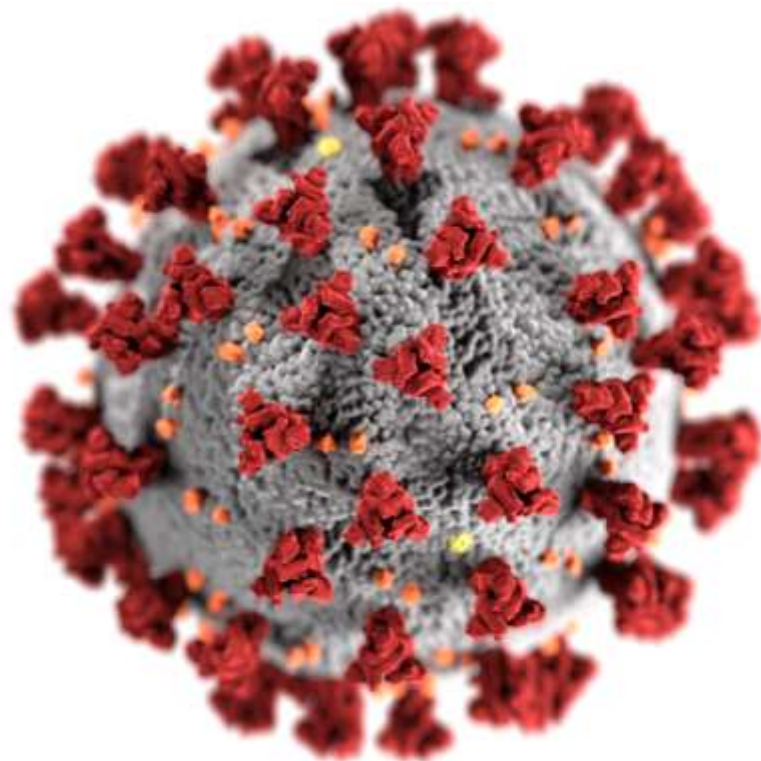
What You Need to Know



What does the Vaccine Do?

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Moderna Vaccine and other COVID-19 candidate vaccines are designed to prevent infection from SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19

The vaccine activates your body to make antibodies that can block entry of the SARS-CoV-2 into your cells





How does it work?

The Pfizer-BioNTech and moderna COVID-19 Vaccines are mRNA vaccines

mRNA vaccines take advantage of the process that cells use to make proteins in order to trigger an immune response

- COVID-19 mRNA vaccines have been rigorously tested for safety before being authorized for use in the United States
- mRNA vaccine technology is new, but has been studied for more than a decade
- mRNA vaccines do not contain a live virus and do not carry a risk of causing infection in the vaccinated person
- mRNA from the vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell and does not affect or interact with a person's DNA





How is the vaccine tested?

How a new vaccine is developed, approved and manufactured

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) sets rules for the three phases of clinical trials to ensure the safety of the volunteers. Researchers test vaccines with adults first.

PHASE 1



**20-100
healthy volunteers**

- Is this vaccine safe?
- Does this vaccine seem to work?
- Are there any serious side effects?
- How is the size of the dose related to side effects?

PHASE 2



**several hundred
volunteers**

- What are the most common short-term side effects?
- How are the volunteers' immune systems responding to the vaccine?

PHASE 3



**thousands
of volunteers**

- How do people who get the vaccine and people who do not get the vaccine compare?
- Is the vaccine safe?
- Is the vaccine effective?
- What are the most common side effects?

FDA licenses the vaccine only if:

- It's safe and effective
- Benefits outweigh risks

Vaccines are made in batches called lots.



Manufacturers must test all lots to make sure they are safe, pure and potent. The lots can only be released once FDA reviews their safety and quality.

The FDA inspects manufacturing facilities regularly to ensure quality and safety.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.FDA.GOV/CBER](https://www.fda.gov/cber)



Is it Safe?

For the Pfizer vaccine, the FDA reviewed the data from over 43,000 individuals 16 years of age and older who participated in clinical trials and found a 90-97% efficacy in preventing a symptomatic laboratory confirmed infection (the normal benchmark is 50%).

The FDA issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) on December 11, 2020 for use in persons aged 16 years or older.

The authorization as EUA means that it is not fully approved and licensed by the FDA. However, an EUA is issued based on the review of the scientific evidence available at this time it is generally safe and effective and that the known and potential benefits of the vaccine when used to prevent COVID-19 outweigh its known and potential risks.



Are there Risks?

There are always risks and always unknowns.

Known risks and side effects reported for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID vaccine include:

- injection site pain
- fever
- tiredness
- injection site swelling or redness
- headache
- nausea
- muscle pain
- feeling unwell
- chills
- swollen lymph nodes
- joint pain

There is a remote chance that the vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction would usually occur within a few minutes to one hour after getting a dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

In this case, the known and potential benefits of the product outweigh the known and potential risks of the product.

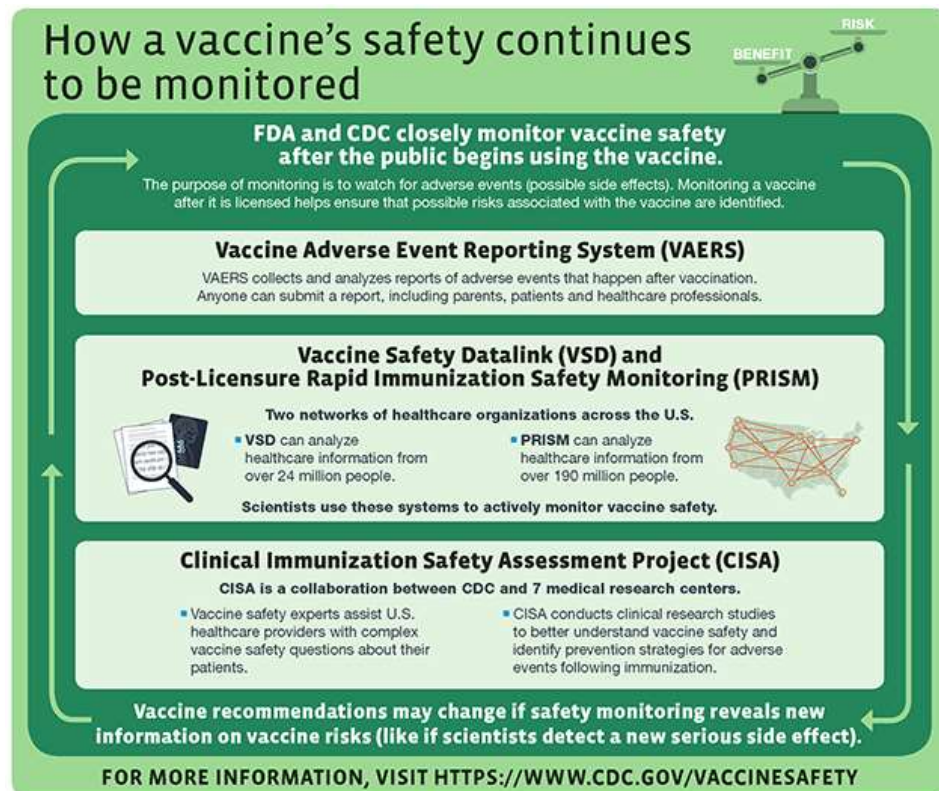


What about Unknowns?

COVID-19 vaccines are being tested in large clinical trials to assess their safety. However, it does take time, and more people getting vaccinated before we learn about very rare or long-term side effects.

That is why safety monitoring will continue. CDC has an independent group of experts that reviews all the safety data as it comes in and provides regular safety updates.

If a safety issue is detected, immediate action will take place to determine if the issue is related to the COVID-19 vaccine and determine the best course of action.





Are there Risks to not Getting It?

By not getting the vaccine, you are at greater risk of getting COVID-19

COVID-19 disease is caused by a coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2. This type of coronavirus has not been seen before.

You can get COVID-19 through contact with another person who has the virus. It is predominantly a respiratory illness that can affect other organs.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms may include:

- fever or chills
- cough
- shortness of breath
- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea



Why should I get it?

To protect yourself, your coworkers, your family and your community!

Building defenses against COVID-19 in this facility and in your community is a team effort. And you are a key part of that defense.

Getting the COVID-19 vaccine adds one more layer of protection for you, your coworkers, patients, and family.



Here are ways you can build people's confidence in the new COVID-19 vaccines in your unit, your community, and at home:

- Get vaccinated
- Tell others why you are getting vaccinated
- Encourage others to get vaccinated.
- Have conversations about COVID-19 vaccine



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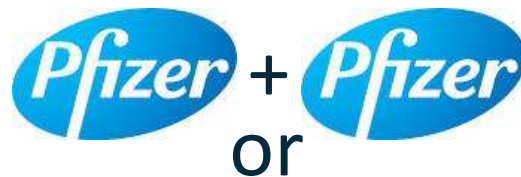
How is the vaccine administered?

The vaccines are given in 2 shots 3-4 weeks apart

Two doses required to achieve high efficacy
Pfizer efficacy after 2nd dose: 95.0%



Both doses should be from the same company





Public Health Practices

For now, both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons should **continue to follow all public health practices** to protect themselves and others, including:

- Wearing a mask
- Staying at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoiding crowds
- Washing hands often
- Following CDC travel guidance
- Following quarantine and ROM guidance
- Following Navy COVID Standard Operating Guidance



WEAR A MASK



STAY 6 FEET APART



AVOID CROWDS



When enough of the population is vaccinated, we should be able to discontinue these measures.



Questions?

