



# COVID-19

## Different COVID-19 Vaccines

Updated May 27, 2021

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### CDC Monitoring Reports of Myocarditis and Pericarditis

CDC has received increased reports of myocarditis and pericarditis in adolescents and young adults after COVID-19 vaccination. The known and potential benefits of COVID-19 vaccination outweigh the known and potential risks, including the possible risk of myocarditis or pericarditis. **We continue to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for individuals 12 years of age and older.**

[Learn When to Seek Medical Care](#)

## Authorized and Recommended Vaccines

Currently, three vaccines are authorized and recommended in the United States to prevent COVID-19:

Pfizer-BioNTech

Moderna

Johnson & Johnson / Janssen



## Different COVID-19 Vaccines

The best COVID-19 vaccine is the first one that is available to you. Do not wait for a specific brand. All currently authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines:

- are [safe](#),
- are [effective](#), and
- [reduce your risk](#) of severe illness.

CDC does not recommend one vaccine over another.

Vaccine Brand Name	Who Can Get this Vaccine <sup>[1]</sup>	How Many Shots You Will Need	When Are You Fully Vaccinated?
<a href="#">Pfizer-BioNTech</a>	People 12 years and older	<b>2 shots</b>	2 weeks after your second

		Given 3 weeks (21 days) apart <sup>[2]</sup>	shot
<a href="#">Moderna</a>	People 18 years and older	<b>2 shots</b> Given 4 weeks (28 days) apart <sup>[2]</sup>	2 weeks after your second shot
<a href="#">Johnson &amp; Johnson's Janssen</a>	People 18 years and older	<b>1 shot</b>	2 weeks after your shot

<sup>1</sup> If you have had a severe [allergic reaction](#) (anaphylaxis) or an immediate allergic reaction to any [ingredient in the vaccine you are scheduled to receive](#), you should not get that vaccine. If you have been instructed not to get one type of COVID-19 vaccine, you may still be able to get another type. Learn more [information for people with allergies](#).

<sup>2</sup> You should get your second shot as close to the recommended 3-week or 4-week interval as possible. However, your second shot may be given up to 6 weeks (42 days) after the first dose, if necessary.

## Vaccine Types

### [Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)

Learn how the body fights infection and how COVID-19 vaccines protect people by producing immunity. Also see the different types of COVID-19 vaccines that currently are available or are undergoing large-scale (Phase 3) clinical trials in the United States.

### [COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines](#)

Information about mRNA vaccines generally and COVID-19 vaccines that use this new technology specifically.

### [Viral Vector COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Information about viral vector vaccines generally and COVID-19 vaccines that use this new technology specifically.

## Vaccines in Phase 3 Clinical Trials

As of February 27, 2021, large-scale (Phase 3) clinical trials are in progress or being planned for two COVID-19 vaccines in the United States:

- [AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [Novavax COVID-19 vaccine](#)

Learn more about U.S. COVID-19 vaccine clinical trials, including vaccines in earlier stages of development, by visiting [clinicaltrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) [↗](#).

This page will be updated as additional information is available.



For Healthcare Professionals

[COVID-19 Clinical Resources](#)