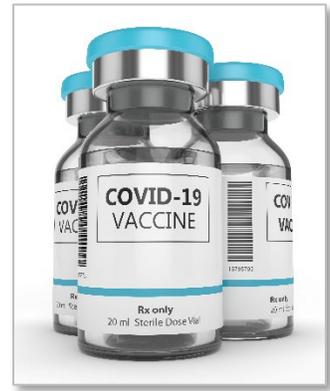


COVID-19 Booster Shots

Public health experts have found that COVID-19 booster shots increase and extend the protection provided by the COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccination helps us all stay up to date with reliable protection from hospitalization and death. Also, it helps us resume group activities safely.

Who Should Get It?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccine recommendations differ based on age, the vaccine first received, and time since the last dose. Boosters are also an important part of protecting yourself from getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19. They are recommended for most people. Depending on your age and immunity, you may be eligible to get more than one booster.



Is It Safe?

The CDC has been providing guidance on vaccines for 70 years. CDC scientists work with experts all over the world to provide the best vaccines to prevent illnesses. Vaccines have been given for hundreds of years. As children, we had multiple lifesaving vaccines and boosters for illnesses such as smallpox, mumps, tetanus and polio. We have yearly influenza vaccines to decrease our risk of getting the flu.

As with other vaccines, all the usual precautions were taken in developing and approving the COVID-19 vaccines. They were tested on more people more quickly (because of the universal emergency need for a vaccine) and found to be safe and trustworthy. Hundreds of millions of people have had COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. The COVID-19 vaccinations are continually being monitored for our safety.

Why Should I Get It?

We have all heard of people who get COVID-19 and are not terribly ill, which is a good thing. By far, people who end up in the hospital more severely ill or dying are unvaccinated or under-vaccinated. We know the vaccine prevents many cases and vaccinated people who get COVID-19 don't get as sick.

We have seen COVID-19 take the worst toll on our older citizens. People over the age of 65 and people who have a weaker immune system especially benefit from boosters because their immune system needs more protection. The vaccines will not make COVID-19 go away, but they give us the best option we have to keep us and our loved ones from getting very ill and dying from the virus.



Visit the [CDC's website](https://www.cdc.gov) to learn