COVID-19 Vaccine: What TAY Need To Know

By now, you’ve probably heard that the COVID-19 Vaccine is available to everyone 12 years of age or older. There is a lot of information about vaccines on the news, social media, and in your everyday conversations that can make it difficult to make a choice. We encourage you to read through our guide, do your own research, and make the best choice for you!

What is the COVID-19 Vaccine?
• A vaccine stimulates the immune system to produce antibodies. After you get vaccinated, you have immunity to that disease.
• Vaccines prevent disease.
• The COVID-19 vaccine prevents COVID-19 and helps your body develop an immunity to COVID-19.
• There are three vaccines you can get:
  ○ Pfizer
  ○ Moderna
  ○ Johnson & Johnson/Janssen

Is it safe to get the vaccine?
• All three vaccines are effective in preventing severe symptoms and death from COVID-19.
  ○ That means if you are vaccinated and you get COVID-19, there is a 90% chance your symptoms will not be severe and lead to death.
• If you have had an immediate or severe allergic reaction to a vaccine or to any ingredients in the vaccine consult your doctor before getting vaccinated.

Can you still get COVID-19 if you are vaccinated?
• Yes, but your chances of getting COVID-19 are a lot lower than if you did not get vaccinated.

Do I need to get vaccinated if I’m young and healthy?
• While having a strong immune system can help prevent the worst symptoms of COVID-19, you should still get the vaccine to lower your chances of getting it and spreading it to vulnerable people.

If I had COVID-19, do I need to get vaccinated?
• Great question! You probably had or have antibodies for COVID-19. Although you might have increased immunity for a little while, it’s difficult to determine how long it will last.
• People have gotten COVID-19 multiple times, and the vaccine can prevent getting COVID-19 again.

Information as of June 8, 2021
**Will the COVID-19 Vaccine give me COVID?**
- However, you may experience some side effects from the vaccine that feel like cold and flu symptoms.

**What are the side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine?**
- Some people don’t experience any side effects, but some people do within the first 3 days.
- Common side effects
  - Pain, redness, and swelling in the arm where you received the shot
  - Tiredness
  - Headache
  - Muscle pain
  - Chills
  - Fever
  - Nausea
- Side effects should go away within a few days.

**Which vaccine should I get?**
- The best vaccine to get is the one you can get now.
- However, there are a few differences between the three vaccines that you can consider when making your choice:
  - Pfizer and Moderna require two doses (usually two weeks apart)
  - Johnson & Johnson/Janssen is only one dose.
  - Pfizer is the only vaccine approved for 12-17 year olds.

**If I’m under 18 and I want to get vaccinated, what do I do?**
- You need consent from your foster or relative caregiver or STRTP staff.
  - **What if they don’t consent?**
    - If your foster or relative caregiver or STRTP staff does not consent, contact your CLC attorney (Call Children’s Law Center at 323-980-1700).

**How much does the vaccine cost?**
- Free 99! Everyone can get the vaccine at no cost!

**How do I get vaccinated?**
- You can go to vaccines.gov or myturn.ca.gov to find a location.
- You can also walk in or make an appointment at your local CVS Pharmacy.

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CDC COVID 19 Vaccination Info [https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html)
COVID-19 MAP John Hopkins University [https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html](https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html)

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