



Special Edition COVID-19 Vaccine Newsletter

Winter 2022

This newsletter is available in Amharic, Arabic, French, Haitian Creole, Indonesian, Khmer, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, Vietnamese at <https://bit.ly/CRPNnewsletter>.

To request printed copies in any language, please email COVIDvax@phila.gov

Find a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

Check out **City-run vaccine clinics** at: www.phila.gov/vaccine and <https://bit.ly/PDPHvaxAppt> or call 3-1-1 and press #5 for an interpreter.

Check for vaccine at a **pharmacy or private health center**: <http://www.vaccines.gov/>

Sign up for the **In-Home Vaccination Program**, language line interpretation available: <https://bit.ly/homeboundvaccinephl>

Bring vaccine to your community and **host your own clinic** in a familiar location.

* Fill out this form if you are interested: <https://bit.ly/PHLVaxClinicReq>



Who can get a COVID vaccine?

Ages 18+: Pfizer, Moderna or J&J vaccine

Ages 5 - 17: Pfizer vaccine.

- * Children 11 and older do not need parental consent to get a COVID-19 vaccine at many clinics.
- * Children under 10 need to come with a parent or guardian.
- * City-run vaccine clinics do not collect proof of age or guardianship.

Ages 0 - 5: Vaccine may be approved later this year. Your child's doctor is the best way to get the latest information.

Who can get a booster dose?

As of February 2022

Anyone 12+ who received the 2nd dose of Pfizer at least 5 months ago.

Anyone 18+ who received the 2nd dose of Moderna at least 5 months ago.

Anyone 18+ who received the J&J vaccine at least 2 months ago

* All COVID-19 vaccine is **free** *

Insurance is not required at ANY vaccine location, even if you are asked for it.

ID is not required, but you may be asked for it.

Lost Vaccine Card?

The CDC does not offer replacement cards. You can request a **copy of your immunization record** that can be used as a vaccine card.

Call (215) 685-5488 and press #5 to say your language or visit <https://bit.ly/LostVaxCardPHL>

COVID-19 Testing

Get tested for COVID-19 immediately if you feel sick.

Get tested 5-7 days after you were close to someone who has COVID-19, even if you feel fine.



Find a FREE COVID-19 test while supplies last, at www.phila.gov/testing and <https://bit.ly/COVIDtestingevents> or call (215) 685-5488 and press #5 for interpretation,

Check your local pharmacy or online to buy a rapid test kit you can do at home.

Visit www.covidtests.gov to **order 4 FREE rapid COVID-19 tests** per household.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do the vaccines work in my body?

The vaccines teach our immune systems to create antibodies (defense cells) that stay in our bodies and can fight the COVID-19 virus if we are exposed to it.

None of the vaccines contain the COVID-19 virus and cannot give you COVID-19.

What are the side effects from the vaccines? Are the side effects for boosters the same?

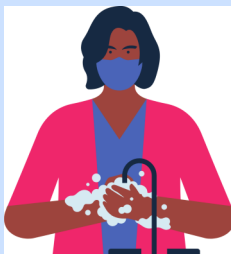
All vaccines could give you side effects. Side effects for the COVID-19 vaccine and booster dose can include: Fever, sore arm, headache, muscle pain, or tiredness.

Side effects happen 1-2 days after your vaccine and can last a few days.

Side effects are signs your body is building protection. Some people don't experience any side effects, but their body is still building protection against COVID-19.

What are the vaccines made of? Do they have harmful ingredients?

Vaccines do not have any harmful ingredients.



Ingredients are different for each company that makes the vaccine. See a complete list at: <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC>

I already got sick with COVID-19, do I still need to get a vaccine?

Yes, you should get a vaccine.

Experts do not yet know how long you are protected from the virus after recovering from being sick with COVID-19.

You can get COVID-19 more than one time. A vaccine protects you from getting severely sick, if you do happen to get the virus.

Children and the COVID-19 Vaccines

How can I be sure the vaccines are safe for my child?

The vaccine was tested in thousands of children of different ages, races, ethnicities, and some medical conditions. There were no serious safety concerns.

- * COVID-19 vaccines for children under 5 may be available later this year.

Children may have some side effects similar to those in adults and similar to the side effects many children get after routine vaccinations.

- * Side effects are normal signs that your child's body is building protection.

The vaccines do not affect fertility or puberty.

Why should I get my children vaccinated?

Children can become very sick from COVID-19, have symptoms that last a long time or can even die from complications of the virus.

Children can pass COVID-19 to other people even if they do not feel sick.

A vaccine helps children stay in school and safely join other group activities.



Talk to your child's doctor for more information.

What is a booster dose and why should I get one?

A booster is an additional dose of vaccine that boosts (improves) your protection.

It is expected for some vaccines to lose some strength over time.



What is a variant? What are Delta, and Omicron?

All viruses can mutate (change) over time.

As a virus changes, a new variant (type) can be created. The COVID-19 virus we have now is not the same as when the pandemic started, and this is expected.

There are many variants (types) of the COVID-19 virus. Most are harmless, but others, like Delta and Omicron, can spread more easily or cause people to get very sick.

Why do some people who are vaccinated get COVID? Do the vaccines not work?

When someone who is fully vaccinated becomes infected with the COVID-19 virus, this is a breakthrough infection. This happens because there are no vaccines or treatments that are 100% effective, and the virus is always changing.

However, fully vaccinated people with a breakthrough infection have a lower chance of getting very sick with COVID-19.

People with vaccine breakthrough infections can spread COVID-19 to others.

Can I get a vaccine if I am undocumented? Will I be deported if I register for the vaccine?

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to get a vaccine. ICE will not be on-site and you will not be asked about your immigration status.

Any personal information you share to register for the COVID-19 vaccine is only allowed to be used for public health and should not be shared or used for deportation.

You may be asked to show ID at City-run vaccine clinics, but ID is not required to get a vaccine. It is helpful to bring something showing your name and address, if you have it.

I have heard the COVID-19 vaccines are not safe for people who are pregnant, want to become pregnant or are breastfeeding, is that true?

People who are pregnant are more likely to get seriously ill with COVID-19. A vaccine can help protect from serious illness and is recommended for people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future.

There is no evidence that any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems in women or men.



Why is information changing so much? I don't know who to trust.

COVID-19 is a new virus, discovered in 2019. Information changes for two reasons:

- 1) Experts need time to complete their research before making a recommendation.
- 2) The virus is always changing, so information needs to be updated.

It is expected that information will continue to change. The CDC is the most reliable source for information COVID-19.

I still have questions, where can I find more information in my language?

Call the [Phila Coronavirus Hotline](tel:1-800-722-7112) 24/7 at **1-800-722-7112** (Press #9 for interpretation).

Information from the CDC in many languages at <https://bit.ly/COVIDvaxFAQ-CDC>

Information about travel: <https://bit.ly/COVIDtravelCDC> (Multilingual).

Information in many languages by the Nationalities Service Center <http://bit.ly/COVIDvideos-NSC> and the Endangered Languages Project at <http://bit.ly/COVIDinfo-ELP>.

Let's stay connected!

Find the latest information at phila.gov/COVID, facebook.com/phillyhealth and twitter.com/PHLPublicHealth

For printed copies of this newsletter, questions, or problems with the translation, email us at COVIDVax@phila.gov or leave a message at **(215) 429-3016** for the [Public Health Preparedness Outreach Team](#). **We would love to hear from you!**

Sign up for the **Community Response Partner Network** at <http://bit.ly/phlcommunityresponse> to get essential public health information to pass to family, friends, and neighbors. **Be safe!**

