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## COVID-19 Vaccine Resource:

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### Are approved vaccines available?

The FDA has given emergency use authorization to the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. The approval from the FDA of a vaccine not only releases the vaccine for distribution, but is an endorsement of the vaccine's safety, which means we can confidently encourage you and others to get the vaccine.

### How effective are the approved vaccines?

The Pfizer vaccine has demonstrated to be 95% effective. It is a two-dose series given 21 days apart and, is administered by injection and is approved for patients 16 years and older.

The Moderna vaccine has demonstrated to be 94.5% effective. It is a two-dose series given 21 days apart and, is administered by injection and is approved for patients 16 years and older.

After the first shot, both vaccines require a "booster shot" to gain the highest level of protection.

### I have a medical condition. Can I get the vaccine?

Discuss your medical condition and the vaccine with your doctor for a personalized recommendation.

### I am pregnant, can I get the vaccine?

Those who are pregnant, or breastfeeding should talk with their obstetrician about the vaccine.

### When can I get the vaccine?

Supplies are based upon when the state delivers vaccines. Eligibility is determined by the prioritization outlined below:

Phase	Groups recommended for vaccination
1a	Health care personnel Long-term care facility residents
1b	Frontline essential workers Persons age 65 years and older
1c	Persons aged 16-64 years with high-risk conditions Essential workers not recommended in Phase 1b
2	All people aged 16 years and older not in Phase 1, who are recommended for vaccination

\*\*Recommendations on vaccines for young children will not be available until more studies are completed.

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### **When can I schedule an appointment to get the vaccine?**

As the vaccine becomes available to more people, we will share the information broadly through our website.

You can register with **Cook County Department of Public Health** to get a vaccine:

<https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=PP8PJNFHMW>

The City of Chicago has not released a public registration. We will update as new information becomes available.

### **Can I get my second vaccine at a different location?**

No. All patients should receive both doses of the same vaccine from the same provider. This will help the Dept of Public Health track and allocate vaccine doses accurately to providers participating in vaccine administration.

### **Do I need to wear a mask when I receive a vaccine or after being vaccinated?**

Yes. The CDC recommends that during the pandemic people wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth when in contact with others outside your household, when in health care facilities, and when receiving any vaccine, including a COVID-19 vaccine.

### **Will the vaccine be given without cost?**

Vaccine doses purchased with U.S. taxpayer dollars will be given at no cost. However, vaccination providers will be able to charge an administration fee for giving the shot to someone. Vaccine providers can get this fee reimbursed by the patient's public or private insurance company.

### **If I already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?**

Yes, you still need to get the vaccine to be protected from COVID-19.

### **If I currently have COVID-19, should I get the vaccine?**

No, you should wait until you are cleared by your physician to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

### **What percentage of the population needs to get vaccinated to have herd immunity to COVID-19?**

Experts do not know what percentage of people would need to get vaccinated to achieve herd immunity to COVID-19. Herd immunity is a term used to describe when enough people have protection, either from previous infection or vaccination, that it is unlikely a virus or bacteria can spread and cause disease. As a result, everyone within the community is protected even if some people do not have any protection themselves. The percentage of people who need to have protection in order to achieve herd immunity varies by disease.

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### **What if I have a reaction to the vaccine?**

Anyone experiencing a reaction to the COVID vaccine, or any vaccine, should contact their doctor.

If you have a reaction to a COVID Vaccine, please file a report through the V-Safe system (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html>) or VAERS (<https://vaers.hhs.gov/>). This will help support