

What You Need to Know About COVID-19 & the COVID-19 Vaccines



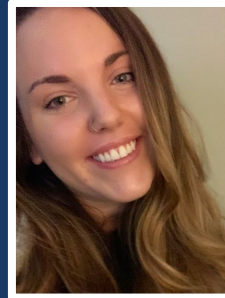
In Partnership with the Piedmont Health District and Virginia Department of Health

Virginia Department of Health Tele Town Hall

What You Need to Know About the COVID-19 Vaccine



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Before We Begin...

Vaccination is a personal choice. Our goal is to empower you with accurate, up to date information on COVID-19 and the vaccination to make the choice for yourself and your family, and address common COVID-19 concerns.

VDH strongly encourages to trust the advice of your medical healthcare providers.

Vaccination is recommended by the Virginia Department of Health, Governor Youngkin, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Where do we go from here? Looking Ahead

Although we are entering a new phase, COVID-19 is not going away.

That means that communities are still at risk for getting COVID-19. We don't know what person with COVID-19 will get very sick or develop long-term problems like long COVID-19. COVID-19 is unpredictable.

Getting yourself and your family vaccinated now is the best way to protect them from getting very sick.

(Sources: [VDH data dashboard](#), [CDC](#))





5 Facts About the COVID-19 Vaccine

The benefits of the vaccines far outweigh any potential risks – the CDC continues to **recommend** COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 5 years of age and older, given the greater risk of COVID-19 illness and possibly severe complications.



1

**You Cannot
Get COVID-19
From The
Vaccine**

2

**Vaccines Were
Made Following
FDA Standards**

3

**COVID-19
Vaccines
Protect Your
Health**

4

**The Vaccines
Are Zero Cost
Out Of Pocket**

5

**Lessens the risk
of serious
complications**



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How COVID-19 Affects Children's Lives

- COVID-19 infection affects children's everyday educational, social, and physical activities
- COVID-19 infection poses a risk of serious illness and hospitalization for children, even though it is significantly lower than the risk to older unvaccinated age groups.
- Children may also develop long-term illness, such as multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children ([MIS-C](#)) or [long COVID](#).

Vaccination is the best way to protect your child so that they can get back to their everyday routines.

SOURCE:

<https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/post-covid-19-conditions-in-children-and-adolescents/>



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Concerns About Myocarditis and Pericarditis

Pericarditis: is the inflammation of the outer lining of the heart.

Myocarditis: is the inflammation of the heart muscle.

Rarely, myocarditis and pericarditis have been reported after COVID-19 vaccination; primarily in male adolescents and young adults, several days after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

The risk of myocarditis from COVID-19 infection is much greater than the risk of myocarditis from the vaccine.

- CDC continues to actively monitor these reports to learn more.



Side Effects That May Occur With the COVID-19 Vaccine



COVID-19 vaccination helps protect people from getting infected with the COVID-19 virus. Some people have side effects that may affect their ability to do their daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects and allergic reactions are rare.

Possible side effects that may occur at the time of the vaccination and what to expect after vaccination:

On the arm where you got vaccinated

- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

Throughout the rest of your body

- Tiredness/fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Fever
- Nausea



5 Concerns about the COVID-19 Vaccine



THE VACCINES WILL NOT...

hurt the
fertility/sterility or the
ability to become a
parent for anyone



THE VACCINES DO NOT...

contain any fetal tissue



THE VACCINES WILL NOT...

affect the DNA or alter
the DNA of anyone



NO ONE WILL...

become more
vulnerable to or contract
COVID-19
due to the vaccine



THE VACCINES DO NOT...

Contain any dangerous
ingredients

MEET YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE



Who Needs an Additional COVID-19 Vaccine?

Currently, CDC is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional dose(s) because they may not build the same level of immunity compared to people who are not immunocompromised.

This includes people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system(i.e. high-dose corticosteroids)
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency
- advanced or untreated HIV infection



Booster Shot And Second Booster Shot Recommendations



Who should get a booster:

- Everyone 12 years and older
- People ages 12 years and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised who have received an initial COVID-19 booster dose at least 4 months ago (regardless of which vaccine) are recommended a **second booster**
- People 18 years and older who received both a primary dose and booster dose of J&J/Janssen COVID-19 at least 4 months ago

When to get a booster:

- At least 5 months after completing your primary COVID-19 vaccination series

Which booster can you get:

- Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines) are preferred in most* situations
- Teens 12–17 years old may only get a Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine booster

Older adults are now able to receive a second COVID-19 booster dose.

If you're 50 years and older and received an initial COVID-19 booster dose (regardless of which vaccine was used) at least 4 months ago, you now have the option to receive a second booster dose using either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.)

People in this age group may be at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 and may benefit from a second booster dose, especially if they have underlying conditions that increase their risk for severe COVID-19.



If you are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19

Your healthcare provider might recommend that you receive additional treatment.

For people at high risk of disease progression, the FDA has issued EUAs for a number of treatments for COVID-19.

- Monoclonal antibody treatments could help the immune system recognize and respond more effectively to the virus.
- Oral antiviral medications that target specific parts of the SARS-CoV-2 virus can help reduce its multiplication and spread through the patient's body.
- Some of these treatments may not be effective against the Omicron variant. Your healthcare provider will decide which, if any, of these treatments are appropriate to treat your illness.



COVID-19 Treatment Options

Monoclonal Antibodies

- For treating COVID-19 to prevent hospitalizations and lessen symptom severity
- These are antibodies similar to the ones your body would naturally make in response to an infection

Available treatments:

- Bebtelovimab

How is it given?

- By infusion into a vein

When should I take it?

- Within 7 to 10 days of symptoms starting

Oral Antivirals

- For treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adult

Available treatments:

- Molnupiravir (LAGEVRIO)
- Paxlovid

How is it given?

- By oral tablet

When should I take it?

- Within 5 days of symptoms starting

Pre-Exposure Prevention

- For those NOT infected with COVID-19
- With moderate to severe immune system compromise or who are not eligible to receive the vaccine

Available treatments:

- Evusheld

How is it given?

- By injection into muscle

When should I take it?

- Once, when NOT currently infected with COVID-19



How do I know if I'm high risk?

These medications are intended for people who are at high-risk of getting a severe COVID-19 infection. Below are some factors to consider in understanding if you are at high-risk and should therefore talk to your healthcare provider about COVID-19 treatment options!

Ages 65 +

Compromised immune system: People with a weakened immune system due to certain medications (such as transplant anti-rejection medications or chemotherapy) or due to other conditions (such as HIV) are at a higher risk of developing severe COVID-19

Chronic disease: People with the following medical conditions may be at higher risk of developing severe COVID-19

- Heart, liver, lung, or kidney disease
- Tobacco use or substance use disorders
- Organ or stem-cell transplant
- Mental health conditions
- Overweight and obesity
- Sick cell disease
- Cancer
- Dementia
- Diabetes
- Pregnancy





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Frequently Asked Questions

Can you get other shots with the COVID-19 vaccine?

Do I need a vaccine if I might not get very ill from COVID-19?

How soon after testing positive can I get vaccinated?

What are the different COVID variants and will new ones form?



Your Questions Answered



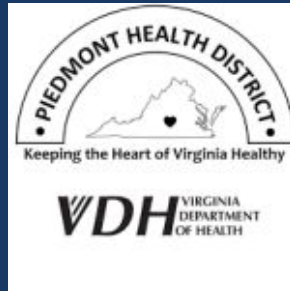
Protect yourself and your community with a COVID-19 vaccine.

Find an appointment:
vaccinate.virginia.gov
877-VAX-IN-VA
877-829-4682

Additional Resources:

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs:

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19faq/vaccination/>



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Disclaimer

These materials have been developed to support providers in conducting conversations with their patients to support and encourage COVID-19 vaccinations. **These materials should not be used for any other purpose.**

For questions related to these materials, please email
covidtele-townhall@vdh.virginia.gov