

# Why should people get vaccinated?

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe
- The vaccine can keep you from getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines also help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.
- Getting vaccinated may also protect people around you, especially people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Many of the vaccines currently available are effective at protecting you from serious illness with the COVID-19 variants



## Common Side Effects of the COVID-19 vaccine

In the arm where you received the vaccine:

- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

Other body symptoms:

- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea



\*Not everyone experiences vaccine side effects, and they may differ from person to person.

## How do vaccines work?

COVID-19 vaccines help our bodies develop immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19 without us having to get the illness.

When germs, such as the virus that causes COVID-19, invade our bodies, they attack and multiply. This invasion, called an infection, is what causes illness. After the infection, the person's immune system remembers what it learned about how to protect the body against that disease. The body keeps a few T-lymphocytes, called "memory cells," that go into action quickly if the body encounters the same virus again. When the familiar viruses are detected, B-lymphocytes produce antibodies to attack them.

Vaccines act in different ways to create these "memory cells" to produce antibodies against a possible infection. COVID-19 vaccines give our cells instructions to make a protein that is unique to the virus that causes COVID-19. Our body's immune system then produces antibodies that will remember how to fight that virus in the future.

# Which vaccine is right for me?

Vaccine Brand	Who can get this vaccine?	How many shots will I need?	When am I fully vaccinated?
Pfizer-BioNTech	People 12 years and older	2 shots Given 3 weeks (21 days) apart	2 weeks after your second shot
Moderna	People 18 years and older	2 shots Given 4 weeks (28 days) apart	2 weeks after your second shot
Johnson & Johnson's Janssen	People 18 years and older	1 shot	2 weeks after your second shot

## Where can I make an appointment to get vaccinated?

If you are interested in getting vaccinated, visit:

[www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/](http://www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/)

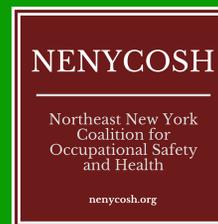
\*If you are receiving the vaccine from a government sanctioned clinic, your vaccine will be free of charge

If you are interested in more information about the vaccine, visit:

[www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/what-you-need-know](http://www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/what-you-need-know)

For more information on COVID-19, visit [www.nenycosh.org/COVID-19](http://www.nenycosh.org/COVID-19)

# Preventing Illness Through Vaccines



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