COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccines for Older Adults

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The risk of severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age. This is why **CDC recommends that adults 65 years and older receive COVID-19 vaccines**. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is an important step to help prevent getting sick from COVID-19.

Tips for How to Get a COVID-19 Vaccine

- Contact your state or local health department for more information.
- Ask a family member or friend to help with scheduling an appointment.
- Ask your doctor, pharmacist, or community health center if they plan to provide vaccines and ask them to let you know when vaccines are available.

Find a COVID-19 Vaccine: Search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

Information About COVID-19 Vaccines for Older Adults

You can help protect yourself and the people around you by getting the vaccine when it is available.

- Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective in preventing severe illness from COVID-19.
- You can't get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- Depending on the kind of COVID-19 vaccine you get, you might need a second shot 3 or 4 weeks after your first shot.

After getting the vaccine, some people have side effects. Common side effects include:

- Pain, redness, or swelling where you get your shot
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea

These are normal signs that your body is building protection against COVID-19. Learn more about what to expect after getting your COVID-19 vaccine.

If you are fully vaccinated, you can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic. Learn more about what you can do when you have been fully vaccinated.

You will not be charged for a COVID-19 vaccine

COVID-19 vaccination providers **cannot:**

- Charge you for the vaccine

- Charge you any administration fees, copays, or coinsurance

- Deny vaccination to anyone who does not have health insurance coverage, is underinsured, or is out of network

- Charge an office visit or other fee to the recipient if the only service provided is a COVID-19 vaccination

- Require additional services in order for a person to receive a COVID-19 vaccine; however, additional healthcare services can be provided at the same time and billed as appropriate

COVID-19 vaccination providers **can:**

- Seek appropriate reimbursement from the recipient's plan or program (e.g., private health insurance, Medicare, Medicaid) for a vaccine administration fee
  - However, providers cannot charge the vaccine recipient the balance of the bill
- Providers may also seek reimbursement for uninsured vaccine recipients from the Health Resources and Services Administration's COVID-19 Uninsured Program. ⬈

Scam Alert: If anyone asks you to pay for access to vaccine, you can bet it's a scam. Don't share your personal or financial information if someone calls, texts, or emails you promising access to the vaccine for an extra fee.

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Information about Medicare and COVID-19 vaccine ⬈

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