

# COVID-19 Vaccinations from Your Trusted, Local Pharmacy

We are Working Collaboratively with the Federal Government to Bring a Safe, Effective Vaccine to You as Quickly as Possible

## Vaccine Availability

### PHASE 1a

- Healthcare personnel
- Long-term care facility residents

### PHASE 1b

- Frontline essential workers

**This includes:** fire fighters, police officers, corrections officers, food and agricultural workers, manufacturing workers, grocery store workers, public transit workers, and those who work in the educational sector, specifically teachers, support staff, and daycare workers.

- People aged 75 years and older

### PHASE 1c

- People aged 65 to 74 years
- People aged 16 to 64 years with underlying medical conditions which increase the risk of serious, life-threatening complications from COVID-19.
- Other essential workers

**This includes:** people who work in transportation and logistics, food service, housing construction and finance, information technology, communications, energy, law, media, public safety, and public health.

### PHASE 2

- All other persons aged  $\geq 16$  years

Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code for more specific information on the phased approach to vaccine administration.



## Vaccine Safety

The U.S. government's vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines—including COVID-19 vaccines—are as safe as possible. Safety is a top priority while federal partners work to make COVID-19 vaccines available. Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to learn more.



## Vaccine Options

Currently, two vaccines are authorized and recommended to prevent COVID-19:

- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine

Three other manufacturers are in the final (Phase 3) stage of clinical trials. Those are AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine, Janssen's COVID-19 vaccine, and Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine.

**Importantly, our pharmacy (and our Federal Pharmacy Partner) has no say in which vaccine becomes available or which vaccine is shipped to us by the federal government.** We will administer the vaccine that is provided to us.

## Questions & Answers about COVID-19 Vaccine and its Administration

**Q:** How does the vaccine work? Does this vaccine contain live virus? Is it inactivated?

**A:** mRNA vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) do not contain a live virus and do not carry a risk of causing disease. In contrast, most vaccines use weakened or inactivated versions or components of the disease-causing pathogen to stimulate the body's immune response to create antibodies.

**Q:** Is the vaccine that helpful? I heard getting COVID-19 gives you better and longer immunity than the protection a vaccine can give. Can it actually make my illness worse if I do end up getting COVID-19?

**A:** Both this disease and the vaccine are new. We don't know how long protection lasts for those who get infected or those who are vaccinated. What we do know is that COVID-19 has caused very serious illness and death for a lot of people. If you get COVID-19, you also risk giving it to loved ones who may get very sick. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is a safer choice.

**Q:** Can it actually make my illness worse if I do end up getting COVID-19?

**A:** Nearly all COVID-19 vaccines being studied in the United States require two shots. The first shot starts building protection, but everyone has to come back a few weeks later for the second one to get the most protection the vaccine can offer.



UPDATED 12302020