



GENERAL QUESTIONS

Who can get vaccinated?

Anyone age five years or older should get vaccinated to protect themselves and their loved ones from COVID-19.

Which vaccine should I get?

We strongly encourage you to get an mRNA vaccine—Pfizer or Moderna—if possible, for both your primary vaccine (your first two doses) and your booster dose.

Should I get a booster shot?

Yes. You should get a booster shot six months after your second dose of an mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna). If you received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, you should get your booster two months later. We strongly encourage everyone, regardless of which vaccine type they originally received, to get an mRNA booster.

Is it safe to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I have an underlying medical condition?

Yes. In fact, COVID-19 vaccination is especially important for people with underlying health problems such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and obesity. People with these conditions are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19.

Some people with immunocompromising conditions—health problems which weaken the immune system and make it more difficult to fight infections—need an additional dose of vaccine for full protection. Please speak to your health care provider about whether or not you may need a third dose.

What is known about side effects of the COVID-19 vaccines?

Like all vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines can cause side effects. They are usually mild, short-lived, and do not interfere with daily activities. Side effects after a vaccination mean your immune system is working as expected. The following side effects are the most common: pain at injection site, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, and fever.

Should I get the vaccine if I have a history of reactions to vaccines?

You should not get the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines if you have had a severe allergic reaction (i.e., anaphylaxis) to vaccines or any components of that vaccine. Please speak with your health care provider if you are concerned about allergies and the vaccines.

Is it safe to get vaccinated if I'm pregnant?

Yes. The CDC recommends COVID-19 vaccination for people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant, or might become pregnant in the future. Pregnant people are more likely to get severely ill with COVID-19. Getting vaccinated will protect both you and your baby.

Can children get vaccinated?

Yes. Children 5 years and older may receive the Pfizer vaccine.

How does the vaccine protect me from the virus?

The vaccines teach your body how to fight a COVID-19 infection without being exposed to the actual virus. If you are then exposed to the virus in the future, your body is better prepared to protect you. The goal is not only to prevent infection—the goal is to reduce your chance of becoming seriously sick from an infection. The COVID-19 vaccines are extremely good at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death.

Will I still have to wear a mask once I receive the vaccine?

Yes, when in public settings. You should still protect yourself and those around you by wearing a mask and social distancing when in public spaces such as public transportation, school, work, and the grocery store.



**Mount
Sinai**

Talking Points for Patients Calling With COVID-19 Vaccine-related Questions

QUESTIONS FOR PATIENTS WHO HAVE HAD COVID-19

Do you recommend I get vaccinated if I have already had COVID-19?

Yes. It is safe and recommended to get vaccinated as soon as you have recovered and no longer require isolation (usually 10 days after your symptoms began).

If I received antibody therapy for COVID-19 am I eligible to receive the vaccine?

Yes. If you have been treated for COVID-19 infection with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma in the past 90 days, you should plan to get vaccinated after the recommended 90-day waiting period.

QUESTIONS RELATED TO PAYMENT/BILLING

Are the COVID-19 vaccines free?

Yes. The COVID-19 vaccines are free of charge for everyone. You do not need health insurance to get vaccinated.

Do I need to provide insurance information in order to be vaccinated?

No. If you do not have health insurance, or forget to bring your insurance card, you will still be vaccinated. However, we will collect your insurance information so we can bill your insurance company. You will not receive a bill or have a co-pay or any other expenses.