

# COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions Community – Protecting your loved ones



Make an informed choice about COVID-19 vaccines and take care of your mind, body, emotions, spirit and community.

## COMMUNITY:

Support your loved ones and the whole community by making informed choices about vaccines.

### ***When can my kids get the vaccine?***

So far, a vaccine has not been approved for children. The bodies and immune systems of kids have different needs than the bodies of adults and we want to make sure the vaccines are safe for children too. Research is underway to determine when those under the authorized ages can receive the vaccine.

### ***What if I'm pregnant or trying to get pregnant?***

People who are pregnant may be able to get the COVID-19 vaccine. People who were pregnant were not included in the studies on the vaccines. For this reason, there is less data on the safety of the vaccines during pregnancy and while breastfeeding. We do know that getting vaccines during pregnancy can be safe. People who are planning to get pregnant or are pregnant should talk to their health care provider about the risks and benefits of getting the vaccine.

### ***What if I'm breastfeeding?***

People who are breastfeeding are encouraged to get the vaccine. Although people who were breastfeeding were not included in the studies on the vaccines, anyone who is breastfeeding can get the vaccine but they need to understand there is limited data on the safety of these vaccines specific to breastfeeding.

Because of the COVID-19 vaccines use mRNA technology and not live virus, getting the vaccine while breastfeeding is safe. If you're breastfeeding, talk to your health care provider about getting the vaccine.



### ***Why is there so much focus on seniors getting the vaccine?***

Seniors living in long-term care settings are at an increased risk for getting COVID-19 because they live in close together sharing the same indoor air. Seniors' immune systems can have a harder time fighting the virus and protecting them from getting sick; especially if they are living with a pre-existing condition. This is why more seniors have more severe illness if they do get COVID-19. Since seniors living in long-term care are at higher risk for more negative outcomes, it is important to protect them with vaccinations as soon as possible.

### ***Do I still have to wear a mask and socially distance after getting the vaccine?***

Even with COVID-19 vaccines, it will still be important to follow all public health guidelines to help limit the spread of the virus. This is because there is still a chance that people who have had the vaccine can still get COVID-19, although if they do they will have milder symptoms. This is why it is important to continue to wear masks, physically distance, and practice proper handwashing even after getting the vaccine.

Doing all of these things, along with protecting yourself with a vaccine, helps to protect you and your loved ones until enough of the population can be vaccinated.

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