

HOW DO I KNOW THAT A COVID-19 VACCINE WILL BE SAFE?

Hundreds of millions of Americans have been safely vaccinated against COVID-19, with the vast majority experiencing minor, temporary side effects. The safety and efficacy data has also been reviewed by an independent expert committee called the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which also recommended the vaccines.

Available vaccines have met all safety and efficacy standards. You, your family and your community will be safer with each individual that chooses vaccination. Vaccinations have been proven to prevent severe illness and death caused by COVID-19.

Cass Regional Medical Center is committed to the safety of the communities we serve by encouraging those who qualify to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. COVID-19 can have serious, life-threatening complications, and there is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. If you get sick, you could spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you.

Four COVID-19 vaccines are approved or authorized in the United States:

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Novavax
- Johnson & Johnson's Janssen (J&J/Janssen) Please note that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine only be considered in certain situations, due to safety concerns.

For specific information on the timing of all four primary and booster COVID-19 vaccines for anyone aged 6 months and older, visit:

[Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines Including Boosters | CDC](#)

When Are You Up to Date?

You are **up to date** with your COVID-19 vaccines when you have completed a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and got the most recent booster dose recommended for you by CDC.

- If you have completed your primary series—but are not yet eligible for a booster—you are also considered up to date.
- If you become ill with COVID-19 after you received all COVID-19 vaccine doses recommended for you, you are also considered up to date. You do not need to be revaccinated or receive an additional booster.

COVID-19 vaccine recommendations are based on three things:

1. Your age
2. The vaccine you first received, and
3. The length of time since your last dose

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have [different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines](#).

Getting Vaccines If You Had or Currently Have COVID-19

If you recently had COVID-19, you still need to stay up to date with your vaccines, but you **may** consider delaying your next vaccine dose (whether a primary dose or booster) by 3 months from:

- when your symptoms started.
- Or, if you had no symptoms, when you first received a positive test.

Reinfection is less likely in the weeks to months after infection. However, certain factors could be reasons to get a vaccine sooner rather than later, such as:

- personal risk of severe disease,
- or risk of disease in a loved one or close contact,
- local [COVID-19 Community Level](#),
- and the most common [COVID-19 variant](#) currently causing illness.

Find a vaccine at **vaccines.gov**

1-800-232-0233

