

COVID-19 Vaccines Help

Kids be Kids



COVID-19 in Kids

While children have been less severely affected by COVID-19 compared with adults, children get COVID-19 as often as adults and can spread it to others. Children with underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness, but about one-third of children hospitalized with COVID-19 had no previous medical conditions.

Cases of COVID-19 among children have increased in the U.S., especially with the widespread transmission of the highly infectious Delta variant.

Though it is very rare, some children who have had COVID-19 may later develop Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C), a rare but life-threatening condition associated with COVID-19. This condition can cause different body parts become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs.

“With about 480,000 kids ages 5-11 across Colorado, widespread vaccination is the best way to protect kids from COVID-19 and help end the pandemic. Children who are vaccinated can more safely attend school or daycare, gather with family and friends and enjoy other activities away from home. Kids should get to be kids, and the approval of the COVID-19 vaccine for this age group is an exciting milestone for families and communities.”

Get Your Child Vaccinated to Protect Against COVID-19

- CDC recommends that everyone 5 years and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against COVID-19. Children 5-11 years old are now able to get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.
- The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children is a two-dose series given three weeks (21 days) apart. The vaccine dose for children (10 micrograms) is a third of the vaccine dose used among people ages 12+ (30 micrograms). It is important to have your child vaccinated with the correct dose based on their age at the time of vaccination.
- The vaccine for children ages 5-11 was 91% effective in preventing symptomatic COVID-19 infection, and 100% effective at preventing severe disease and death. Immune responses of children ages 5-11 were as strong as those of individuals ages 16-25.
- The vaccine's safety was studied in approximately 3,000 children ages 5-11 who received the vaccine and no serious side effects have been detected in the ongoing study.
- Side effects after getting vaccinated (normal signs that your body is building protection) among children are similar to those among adults. Common side effects include pain at the injection site, tiredness, and headache. These side effects may affect your child's ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. There were no serious side effects seen during the clinical study of 5-11 year olds.
- COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines, such as flu or other routine childhood vaccines, can be administered together.

Tips for Preparing Your Child For Their COVID-19 Vaccine

As a parent or caregiver, you can help prepare your child for their COVID-19 vaccination.

Before your visit:

- Kids under 18 need parental consent to get vaccinated. Talk to your provider to see if you should be present at your child's vaccination appointment or if you provide parental consent over the phone or in writing.
- Talk to your child before the visit about what to expect.

During your visit:

- Health care providers, parents and children ages 2+ should wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth.
- You should receive a fact sheet that tells you more about the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Review the information and ask the health care provider about any questions or concerns you may have.
- Tell the doctor or nurse about any allergies your child may have.
- You should get a vaccination card that tells you what COVID-19 vaccine your child received, the date they received it and where they received it. Keep this vaccination card for your child's second dose and in case you need it for future use.
- After your child's COVID-19 vaccination, you will be asked to stay for 15-30 minutes so your child can be observed in case they have an allergic reaction requiring treatment.
- Ask your child's health care provider about getting started with v-safe, a free, smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after your child receives a COVID-19 vaccination. Through v-safe, you can report any side effects your child may have after vaccination. V-safe also reminds you to get your child's second dose. Learn more about v-safe.



After your visit:

- Monitor for any side effects after vaccination, especially during the first week after vaccination. Most side effects are normal and should go away within a few days. Some people have no side effects. Contact your doctor or healthcare provider if:
 - » The redness or tenderness where you got the shot gets worse after 24 hours
 - » Your side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days
- If needed, talk to your child's health care provider about taking over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen, acetaminophen or other non-aspirin pain relievers, for any pain and discomfort after getting vaccinated.

Remember to get your child's second dose of their vaccine three weeks (21 days) after their first dose.

**How to Get
a FREE
COVID-19
Vaccine for
Your Kid**

Check with your child's health care provider, local pharmacy, or clinic.

Visit the State's website for providers
covid19.colorado.gov/kids-vaccines

Find the complete list of providers at
bit.ly/CDPHEvaccineProvider