

# FAQ

Johnson & Johnson



Here you will find answers to common questions about the single dose, Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine. A COVID-19 vaccination will help keep you from getting COVID-19. Stay informed and get the latest updates from trusted sources such as your healthcare team.

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## 1. Who should get the J&J COVID-19 vaccine?

The J&J COVID-19 vaccine has been authorized for people 18 years of age and older.

## 2. How long does it take for protection to kick in?

It takes about 15 days to build immunity after getting the J&J COVID-19 vaccine. It takes about one month to get maximum protection after getting the shot.

## 3. Should I get a J&J COVID-19 vaccine if I have allergies?

There is a small chance the vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction would usually occur within a few minutes to one hour after getting the vaccine. You will be monitored for any signs of allergic reactions after receiving the shot. Talk to your trusted doctor about any concerns or questions.

You should not get the J&J COVID-19 vaccine if you had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of this vaccine.

## 4. What are the ingredients in the J&J COVID-19 vaccine?

The vaccine includes the following ingredients: recombinant, replication-incompetent adenovirus type 26 expressing the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, citric acid monohydrate, trisodium citrate dihydrate, ethanol, 2-hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (HBCD), polysorbate-80, sodium chloride.

## 5. If I already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated?

Yes. Health experts recommend you get vaccinated. Talk to your trusted doctor about your COVID-19 vaccination schedule.



## 6. How is the vaccine given?

The single-dose (one shot) vaccine will be given to you as an injection into the muscle, typically in your upper arm. You'll need one shot of the vaccine.

## 7. What are the side effects of the J&J COVID-19 vaccine?

After getting the vaccine, you may have some side effects. This is a normal sign your body is building protection. Side effects should go away in a few days. This is not dangerous, just unpleasant. Talk to your doctor about ways to reduce pain and discomfort from side effects.

### **Common side effects of the vaccine:**

- On the arm where you received the shot: pain, swelling.
- Throughout the rest of your body: headache, tiredness, muscle aches, nausea, fever.

## 8. How long does it take to get a J&J COVID-19 vaccine?

It should only take a few minutes. However, you may be monitored 15-30 minutes after getting the shot, so plan accordingly, especially if you need help getting to and from your vaccine appointment.

## 9. Do I need to wear a mask when I get my vaccine?

Yes. It is recommended people wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth during the vaccination.

## 10. Do I need to wear a mask and avoid close contact with others after I get the J&J COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. To help stop this pandemic and protect yourself and others, continue to wear a mask over your nose and mouth, stay at least six feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

## 11. When and where can I get a J&J COVID-19 vaccine?

Your trusted healthcare team can tell you when and where you'll be able to get a vaccine.



**12. Do I have to pay for a COVID-19 vaccine?**

No. The COVID-19 vaccine will be given to all Americans at no cost.

**13. I got at least one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Should I get the J&J COVID-19 vaccine?**

No. Health experts recommend you get only one type of COVID-19 vaccine. If you received at least one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, you'll need a second dose of the same brand a few weeks later. You do not need the J&J COVID-19 vaccine if you've received the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. Please talk with your doctor about your vaccination schedule.

**14. Is the J&J COVID-19 vaccine better than the 2-shot vaccines made by Moderna and Pfizer?**

The best vaccine is the vaccine you have access to. All authorized COVID-19 vaccines were 100 percent effective at preventing hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 during clinical trials. This means the vaccines work and help prevent serious illness from COVID-19.

**15. Can I choose which vaccine to get?**

Vaccination sites will offer you the vaccine they have available at the time of your appointment.

**16. Will the J&J COVID-19 vaccine give me COVID-19?**

No. None of the authorized vaccines contain the virus that cause COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

**17. Does the vaccine contain live COVID-19 virus?**

No. The J&J vaccine is a viral vector vaccine and does not contain live COVID-19 virus.



### **18. What is a viral vector vaccine?**

A viral vector vaccine delivers important instructions to our cells and teaches our bodies to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19.

### **19. How safe is the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine?**

All COVID-19 vaccines, including the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, are being held to the same rigorous safety and effectiveness standards as all other types of vaccines in the United States. Over 43,000 people participated in the study and no common severe side effects were found.

### **20. Did the clinical trial include African American or Hispanic people?**

Yes. Overall, 45.3% of volunteers identified as Hispanic or Latina, 19.4% as Black or African American, 9.5% American Indian or Alaska Native, 3.3% Asian, 0.2% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and 5.6% Multiracial.

### **21. Can I get the J&J COVID-19 vaccine if I am currently sick with COVID-19?**

No. You should wait until you have recovered from your illness and met the criteria for discontinuing isolation. Talk to your doctor or vaccination provider about your vaccination schedule.

### **22. Can I receive the J&J COVID-19 vaccine with other vaccines?**

Yes. COVID-19 vaccines may now be given along with other vaccines at the same time. For example, you can get a flu shot and a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time.

Source: U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



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