



Key Things to Know About COVID-19

COVID-19 vaccines are safe

All authorized COVID-19 vaccines meet FDA's rigorous standards for safety and effectiveness. Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines. These vaccines will continue undergoing the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history to make sure that they are safe. [Learn more.](#)

COVID-19 vaccines cannot make you sick with COVID-19

None of the vaccines being used or tested in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that they cannot make you sick with COVID-19. [Learn more.](#)

COVID-19 vaccines are effective

All FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines prevent nearly 100% of hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19. [Learn more.](#)

COVID-19 virus variants and vaccines

Scientists are studying different forms, or variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 to see if the vaccines will work against them. Current data suggest that COVID-19 vaccines authorized and recommended for use in the United States offer protection against most variants. For this reason, COVID-19 vaccines are an essential tool to protect people against COVID-19, including illness caused by the new variants. CDC will continue to monitor the impact these new variants may have on how well the vaccines work. [Learn more.](#)

COVID-19 vaccines are here

Vaccines are here now and everyone age 16 and older can get them. Find vaccines near you at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

COVID-19 vaccines are free

The federal government is providing the vaccine free of charge to all people living in the United States. [Learn more.](#)

Wear a mask after getting the vaccine

After you're fully vaccinated (2 weeks after your final dose) you can start doing many things that you had stopped doing because of the pandemic. However, you should continue to wear a mask in indoor public places, stay at least 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you and who may not be vaccinated, avoid crowded and poorly ventilated spaces, and wash your hands frequently.

[Learn more.](#)