

Tips, Talking Points and Facts.

Turn concern into confidence.



Learn more about today's
COVID-19 vaccines.
Go to www.MadeToSave.org

Although everyone 5 years of age and older who resides in the United States is now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine, confusion remains about the different vaccines available and how individuals can access a vaccine. Below is content intended to help ensure the communities hit hardest by the pandemic have accurate and timely information about COVID-19 vaccines.

Please use these tips and talking points to inform members of your community about the COVID-19 vaccine and how it is made to save lives.



Start from a place of empathy and understanding

- Keep in mind that while the pandemic has been stressful for everyone, it has disproportionately impacted communities of color.
- The first step in bringing up the COVID-19 vaccine is to acknowledge the impact this pandemic has had on our lives and provide a safe space to hear common concerns that can be addressed by getting vaccinated.

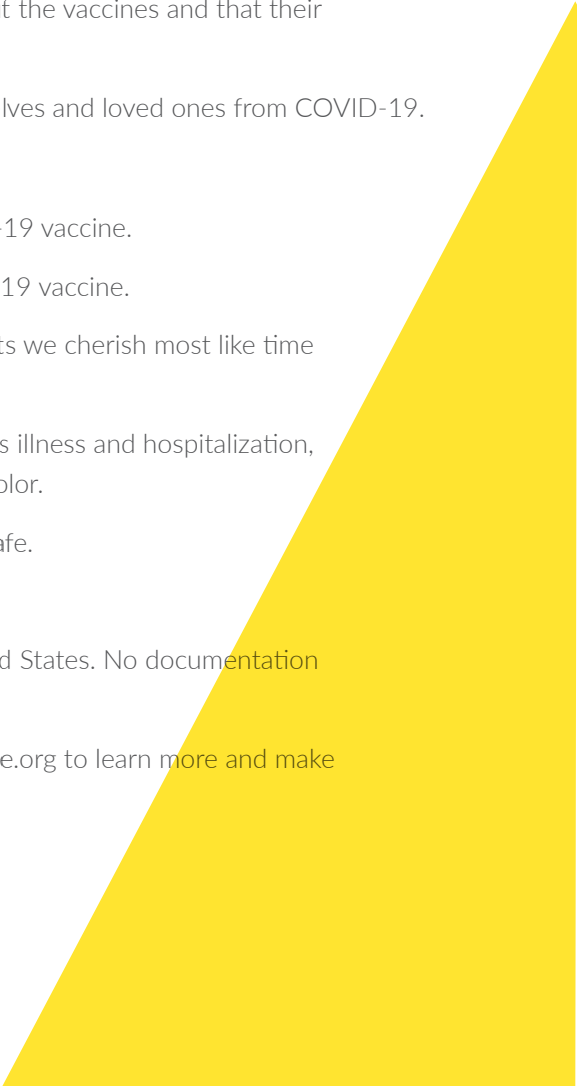
Empower the community

- Empower those who are hesitant by helping them feel confident in their decision to do what's best for themselves, their families and their communities by getting vaccinated.
- Engage community members in conversations to ensure they have a clear understanding of the safety and efficacy of vaccines, including the vaccine development and approval process and the benefits of vaccination.
- Use your platform to have empathetic vaccine conversations, address myths and common questions, and provide tailored vaccine information to the community.

Use messaging and tones that resonate with general audiences

- Use credible, science-based information.
- Acknowledge that it's normal for people to have questions about the vaccines and that their questions are heard and matter.
- Remind people that vaccines are another tool to protect themselves and loved ones from COVID-19.

Important messages to communicate

- Turn concern into confidence and learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Everyone ages 5 and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
 - The COVID-19 vaccines are made to save lives and the moments we cherish most like time with family and friends.
 - The vaccines are extremely effective in preventing death, serious illness and hospitalization, all of which have disproportionately impacted communities of color.
 - The vaccine is an effective way to keep our friends and family safe.
 - The vaccine is our way out of the pandemic.
 - COVID-19 vaccines are free of charge to all people in the United States. No documentation or ID is required.
 - If you have questions about the vaccine, go to www.MadeToSave.org to learn more and make the best decision for you and your family!
 - Here are ways to find vaccines near you:
 - Visit www.vaccines.gov
 - Text your ZIP code to 438829
 - Call 1-800-232-0233
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General Vaccine Information

- To get the most protection from the vaccines, you need all the recommended doses:
 - The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two initial doses
 - Booster shots are available five months after your second dose
 - Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine requires one initial dose
 - Booster shots are available two months after your initial dose
- COVID-19 vaccines can cause side effects in some people, but serious side effects are extremely rare. Most side effects go away on their own in a few days. The most common side effect is a sore arm at the injection site.
- All authorized vaccines went through a scientific process led and reviewed by America's leading scientists and medical experts. The vaccines are based on decades of work by medical researchers. Academic studies continue to show vaccines are extremely effective at protecting people from hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19.
- Millions of people have received one of the vaccine options and all vaccines provide high levels of protection against severe COVID-19 infection.
- All of the COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the U.S. were studied among a diverse group of volunteers who were Black, Latino, Asian, Native American, white, young, old, healthy, not healthy, rural and urban. Multiple groups are monitoring safety in the millions of people who have received the vaccines.

Children & Vaccines

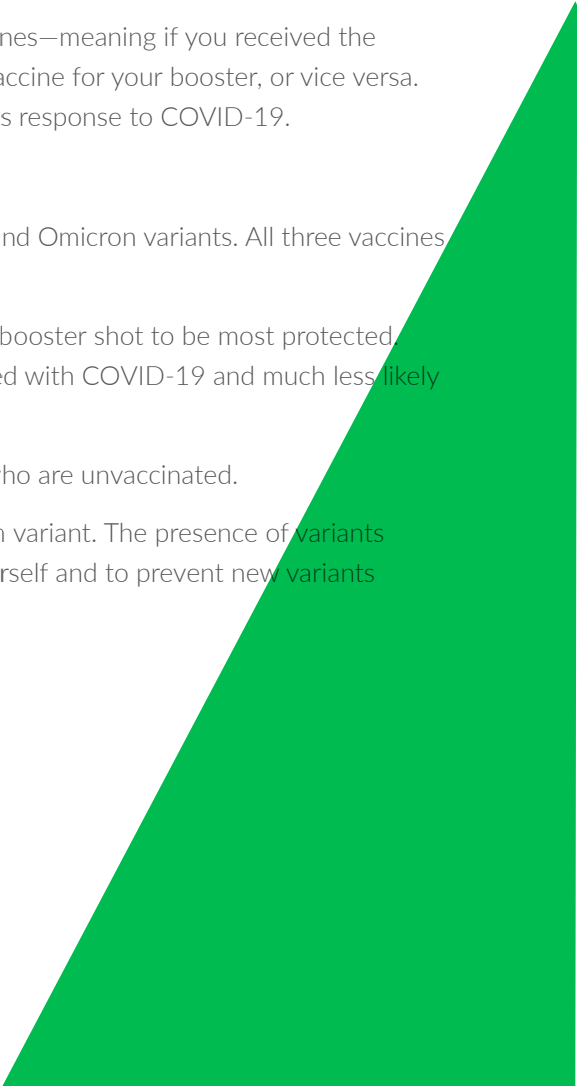
- COVID-19 vaccines are now approved and safe for children ages 5 and up.
- The vaccine for children ages 5-11 is one third of the dose given to teenagers and adults.
- The vaccine is not dosed by weight, but by the age of the immune system.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the COVID-19 vaccine for all children 5 and up who don't have severe allergic reactions to vaccines. If you have questions or concerns, talk to your child's pediatrician.
- Over 3,000 children ages 5-11 were included in clinical trials for the vaccine. The vaccine was 100% effective in preventing severe disease and death.
- Children could experience short-term mild or moderate side effects like a sore arm or fever. These side effects are indicators that your child's immune system is responding to the vaccine and are common when receiving any vaccine.
- According to the CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics, routine childhood immunizations and flu shots can be safely given at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine.



Booster Shots

- While COVID-19 vaccines are working well to protect against severe illness, hospitalization and death, public health experts are beginning to see reduced protection likely due to waning immunity and the emergence of new variants. Clinical trials showed a booster shot increased the immune response of participants.
- If you received the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, you should get a booster dose five months after your second dose.
- If you received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you should get a booster two months after your single dose.
- The data so far suggests that getting the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines provide more protection than the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, so you can select either Pfizer or Moderna for the booster.
- The CDC and FDA have approved mixing and matching of vaccines—meaning if you received the Pfizer vaccine for your first series, you could get the Moderna vaccine for your booster, or vice versa. Any of the vaccines will significantly boost your immune system’s response to COVID-19.

COVID-19 Variants

- Fully vaccinated people are largely protected against the Delta and Omicron variants. All three vaccines available in the U.S. work well against the Delta variant.
 - You need both doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines and a booster shot to be most protected. If you are fully vaccinated, you are much less likely to get infected with COVID-19 and much less likely to infect other people.
 - The Delta and Omicron variants spread quickly among people who are unvaccinated.
 - Other variants continue to emerge, the latest being the Omicron variant. The presence of variants emphasizes the importance of getting vaccinated to protect yourself and to prevent new variants from emerging.
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KNOW THE FACTS

Accurate vaccine information is critical and can help stop common myths and rumors. It can be difficult to know which sources of information you can trust. Learn more about [finding credible vaccine information](#).



FACT: Millions of people are getting vaccinated every day. There is enough vaccine supply for every resident of the United States.

FACT: The vaccine is free of charge to all people living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.

FACT: The vaccine will not give you COVID-19. None of the authorized or in development vaccines contain the virus at all – just bits of mRNA, DNA, or protein.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines do not interact with your DNA in any way.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines do not create or cause variants of the virus that cause COVID-19. Instead, COVID-19 vaccines can help prevent new variants from emerging.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines do not contain microchips. Vaccines are developed to fight against disease and are not administered to track your movement.

FACT: Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine will not make you magnetic, including at the site of vaccination which is usually the arm.

FACT: The COVID-19 vaccine will not make you sick with COVID-19. Some people have no side effects. Others have pain or swelling on the arm where they were given their shot, tiredness, headache, chills, or fever. These symptoms are normal and should go away after a few hours or 2-3 days.

FACT: The COVID-19 vaccines do not cause infertility. They are strongly recommended for everyone who wants to be pregnant in the future. There is no evidence that any vaccine causes infertility, including the COVID-19 vaccines.

FACT: Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding should be vaccinated. Pregnant people who get infected with COVID-19 are at an increased risk of COVID-19 complications compared to non-pregnant patients.

FACT: If you've already had COVID-19, you should still get vaccinated. Experts do not yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering from the virus. You can get vaccinated once you have no symptoms and are no longer required to isolate.



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