Is the COVID-19 Vaccine Safe?

ct.gov/covidvaccine

DPH
Keeping Connecticut Healthy
Connecticut Department of Public Health

All the COVID-19 vaccines being used have gone through rigorous studies to ensure they are as safe as possible.

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) **for two COVID-19 vaccines — from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna —** with data showing safety and efficacy findings from large clinical trials. This data demonstrates that the known and potential benefits of this vaccine outweigh the known and potential harms of becoming infected with COVID-19.

- The Pfizer vaccine alone had **a trial of over 40,000 people over a period of many months without any serious incidents.** No vaccines will be available to the public without the review of the federal government and the Science Subcommittee of Governor Lamont's Vaccine Advisory Group. In Connecticut, we continue to make every decision with public health as a number one priority.

Learn more:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the side effects of the vaccine?
You may have some side effects, which are normal signs of your body building protection. These side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away within a few days.

Common side effects:
- Pain & swelling in the arm where you got the shot
- Fever
- Chills
- Tiredness
- Headache

Is it safe to get vaccinated if I have an underlying health condition?
Yes. COVID-19 vaccination is especially important for people with underlying health problems like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and obesity. People with these conditions are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19. It is recommended that people with these conditions get vaccinated.

I've had allergic reactions to other shots, can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?
Individuals who have had prior allergic reactions to injectable medicines should consult with their medical providers before receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Your provider can discuss what allergies may make it risky for you to get the COVID-19 vaccination, but it has proven safe in the vast majority of instances.

Can I get the vaccine if I'm pregnant or nursing?
Yes.

Is the COVID-19 vaccination safe for children?
Vaccinations are only authorized for those over 16 at this time.

Can people who have already have COVID-19 get the vaccine?
Yes. CDC recommends getting vaccinated even if you have already had COVID-19 because reinfection is possible. While you might have some short-term antibody protection after recovering from COVID-19, we don't know how long this protection will last.

Getting vaccinated is one of many steps you can take to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

For some people, COVID-19 can cause severe illness or death. Getting vaccinated not only protects you from COVID-19, it also protects those around you by preventing its spread. Stopping a pandemic requires using all the prevention tools available. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus. Other steps, like masks and social distancing, help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus and spreading it to others. **Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC's recommendations to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from COVID-19.**

GET THE FACTS ON THE VAX

SOURCES
- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html
- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html
- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.html
- portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccinations---FAQs