

Comparing COVID-19 Vaccines



	PFIZER	MODERNA	JOHNSON & JOHNSON
What kind of vaccine is this?	Messenger RNA vaccination shot	Messenger RNA vaccination shot	Adenovirus-based vaccination shot
<i>For more information about the types of vaccines, see the FAQs on page 3 of this document.</i>			
Is the vaccine approved?	Yes. The FDA issued emergency use authorization (EUA) on December 11, 2020.	Yes. The FDA issued emergency use authorization (EUA) December 18, 2020.	Yes. The FDA issued emergency use authorization (EUA) February 27, 2021.
How effective is the vaccine?	Based on evidence from clinical trials, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was 95% effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness.	Based on evidence from clinical trials, the Moderna vaccine was 94.1% effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness.	In trials in the U.S., the Johnson & Johnson vaccine was 72% effective in preventing moderate cases and 85% effective at preventing severe disease .
<i>All of the approved vaccines are very effective at preventing severe illness and death from COVID-19.</i>			
How many doses are required, and how far apart?	Two doses 21 days apart	Two doses 28 days apart	One dose
Which age groups can get the vaccine?	Ages 12 years and older	Ages 18 years and older	Ages 18 years and older
How long does it take to build immunity after the vaccine?	You will start to have some immunity seven days after your first dose. Your immunity will continue to build and will reach a peak about two weeks after the second dose.	You will start to have some immunity seven days after your first dose. Your immunity will continue to build and will reach a peak about two weeks after the second dose.	Your immunity will continue to build for a few weeks after vaccination, but protection from COVID begins around day 14.



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<p>Is there anyone who should not get the vaccine?</p>	<p>People who have had severe allergic reactions to any ingredients in the vaccine should not get it.</p> <p>People who have autoimmune or other conditions should check with their doctor before getting the vaccine.</p>	<p>People who have had severe allergic reactions to any ingredients in the vaccine should not get it.</p> <p>People who have autoimmune or other conditions should check with their doctor before getting the vaccine.</p>	<p>People who have had severe allergic reactions to any ingredients in the vaccine should not get it.</p> <p>People who have autoimmune or other conditions should check with their doctor before getting the vaccine.</p>
<p>What are the possible side effects?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chills • Tiredness • Headache • Muscle pain • Fever • Nausea • Pain, swelling, or redness in the arm where the shot was given 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chills • Tiredness • Headache • Muscle pain • Fever • Nausea • Pain, swelling, or redness in the arm where the shot was given 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chills • Tiredness • Headache • Muscle pain • Fever • Nausea • Pain, swelling, or redness in the arm where the shot was given

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Frequently Asked Questions

How do the vaccines work?

Both types of COVID-19 vaccines train the immune system to fight COVID-19 without the risk of getting sick from COVID. None of the vaccines contain a live virus, so it is impossible to get COVID from the vaccine. They give cells instructions to make a harmless “spike protein” similar to the spikes found on the coronavirus. The body begins an immune response to these cells and produces antibodies that will provide protection if the real coronavirus ever enters the body.

What is the difference between Messenger RNA vaccines and Adenovirus vaccines?

Messenger RNA vaccines (often called mRNA vaccines) use a strand of messenger RNA protein — delivered inside a chemical casing — to deliver instructions to the cell and teach it to make the spike protein. Adenovirus-based vaccines use a common, deactivated virus to deliver instructions to the cell.

Can I choose which vaccine I get?

Probably not. Because of the limited supply of COVID-19 vaccines, it is unlikely that there will be multiple vaccines available for you to choose from. However, all the available vaccines are safe and highly effective at preventing sickness from COVID and will help protect you. While it might seem important to choose the most effective vaccine, it is more important to get as many people vaccinated as soon as possible so we can get back to normal sooner. If you have questions about which vaccine is best for you, talk to your doctor.

Can any of the vaccines give me COVID?

No. While some of the side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine are similar to symptoms of the COVID-19 virus, the vaccine *cannot* give you COVID-19. It is possible to receive the shot and get infected from another source before your body has a chance to build immunity. This is why it is important to continue washing your hands and wearing a mask even after you get each dose of the vaccine.

What will the vaccine cost?

Nothing. The COVID-19 vaccination is free to all Americans, including those without insurance. No person can be billed for the COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, visit oneforallmo.com.