

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

Frequently Asked Questions

July 2021

Children and adolescents, 12 years and older, are now eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine!

Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic. Plus, people who are fully vaccinated can resume activities that they did prior to the pandemic. Consult the following information below to help inform your decision to get you or your child vaccinated.

Help protect your whole family by getting yourself and your children, 12 years and older, vaccinated against COVID-19!

How well does the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine work?

Based on evidence from clinical trials in people aged 16 years and older, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was 95% effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in people without evidence of previous infection.

In clinical trials, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was also highly effective at preventing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 illness in adolescents aged 12–15 years, and the immune response in people aged 12–15 years was at least as strong as the immune response in people aged 16–25 years. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) will continue to provide updates as we learn more about how well the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine works in real-world conditions.

Are there possible symptoms of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine?

Yes, there are possible symptoms that may happen within a day or two of getting the vaccine. However, they are normal signs that your body is building protection and should go away within a few days.

In the arm where you got the shot you may experience pain, redness, and swelling. Throughout the rest of your body you may experience tiredness, headaches, muscle pain, chills, fever, and/or nausea.

Can your vaccine cause people to develop COVID-19?

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine does not contain the virus and cannot give you COVID-19.

How many shots will I/my child need to get?

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine requires two shots, scheduled 21 days apart.

Can my child get the regularly-scheduled immunizations they might have missed during the pandemic?

Yes, it is safe for your child to get their immunizations during the same time period they get their COVID-19 vaccination. Plus, your local school-based health center will be open and offering immunizations throughout the summer months.

Where can I get the COVID-19 vaccine for my child?

For help finding a vaccination site, contact your local school-based health center.

Use the QR code to find your local health center's contact information and summer hours!

Or, visit Michigan.gov/COVIDVaccine or call their COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136.

