COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

COVID-19 vaccine first, second, third* and booster doses are now widely available at local pharmacies and other community locations near you! Vaccines are free of cost. Talk to your healthcare provider about whether a booster or third dose is right for you!

What is a booster dose?

A COVID booster shot is an additional dose of a vaccine given after the protection provided by the original vaccine wanes over time. Eligibility requirements:

• 6 months have passed since your second dose of Pfizer or Moderna
• 2 months have passed since your Johnson & Johnson Dose

What is a third* dose?

An additional dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is administered to people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems (due to chronic illness or other health conditions) to improve the immune response to their initial vaccine series.

What does "mixing & matching" vaccines mean?

State and federal agencies have approved of the strategy known as “mixing and matching,” where individuals eligible for boosters may either be boosted with their original vaccine or opt for a different COVID-19 vaccine.

More information on booster doses is available from: CDPH Q&A: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Vaccine-Booster-QA.aspx.

3 Reasons WHY TO GET A BOOSTER or THIRD DOSE

1 A booster dose is recommended for anyone 18+. It is especially recommended for those who are 65+, or have underlying medical conditions, or who live or work in high-risk environments for contracting COVID-19.

2 People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised need a third dose. After the 2nd dose, immunocompromised people receive 50-60% protection. With another full dose, this population can reduce their risk of hospitalization.

3 New variants will continue to evolve as long as there are large proportions of unvaccinated people. The new Omicron variant has many mutations in important areas of the virus that impact infectiousness and the ability for immune systems to protect from infection. You can continue to protect yourself by getting vaccinated, wearing a mask, washing your hands, getting tested and staying home when you are sick. For more information on the Omicron variant, please visit: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Omicron-Variant-Fact-Sheet.aspx.

To get a COVID-19 vaccine:

• Scan QR code to local vaccine clinic calendar
• Visit: www.countyofnapa.org/3096/COVID-19-Vaccines
• Visit: www.myturn.ca.gov or VaccineFinder: www.vaccines.gov/search
• Questions about vaccines? 707-253-4540 or coronavirus@countyofnapa.org

www.countyofnapa.org/2739/Coronavirus-COVID-19
The COVID-19 vaccine is now available to more children and adolescents. Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccine has been authorized for use in children ages 5 to 11. COVID-19 vaccines continue to be remarkably effective in reducing the risk of severe disease and hospitalization.

**What kinds of symptoms will children experience after vaccination?**
Symptoms have proven to be very similar to those that adults have experienced. Children will receive a smaller dose and will be monitored for at least 15 minutes after receiving the vaccine. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to your child’s pediatrician for more information.

**Can a child get sick from COVID-19 and spread it to others?**
Children can still get sick and can get others sick as well. COVID-19 has infected nearly 6.3 million children and 22,400 children have been hospitalized. Over 600 children under the age of 18 have died as a result of COVID-19. Vaccinating children can help avoid severe illness from COVID-19, missed school days, hospitalization, and death, which far outweigh the potential risks of having a rare adverse reaction to vaccination, including the possible risk of myocarditis or pericarditis.

**Why should I vaccinate my child if the risk of severe illness is low?**
The side effects of COVID-19 are much riskier than those of the authorized vaccines. Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C) is a condition where different body parts become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs, and may result in hospitalization and death. Myocarditis is a condition that causes inflammation of the heart muscle and pericarditis causes inflammation of the outer lining of the heart. These rare conditions are 16 times higher in persons with COVID infection, in comparison to those who receive the vaccine.

**3 reasons why it is important for children age 5 to 11 to be vaccinated**

1. Patients with COVID-19 infection have a 6-34 times higher risk for viral myocarditis.
2. Vaccines can prevent children from getting MIS-C caused by COVID-19, which mostly impacts this age group.
3. Between April 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, over 140,000 children in the US experienced the death of a parent or grandparent caregiver from COVID 19 infection. Vaccination of children prevents these deaths.

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