

# COVID-19 VACCINES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5



## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

COVID-19 infection can happen to anyone, including children. Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are available for children 6 months and older. Every child is safer with a COVID-19 vaccine than without it.

## COMMON QUESTIONS

### Is the vaccine safe?

Yes. Thousands of children participated in the trials, and as of May 2023, over 5.5 billion people have received over 13 billion doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. (1) Safety monitoring is ongoing with no serious side effects detected for children under 5. (2)

### Can my child get other vaccines at the same visit?

Yes. It is safe to get other vaccines at the same time. (3)

### What are side effects?

Side effects are common and may include a sore arm, fatigue, headache, fever, chills, and muscle or joint pain. (3) As of May 2023, no long-term side effects have been detected. (1, 3)

### Does my child need to be vaccinated if their parent was vaccinated during pregnancy and/or breastfeeding?

Yes. It is recommended to vaccinate your child as soon as possible, even if they may be considered low risk, to protect them from severe disease. (4)



#### Sources

1. Our World in Data: <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/safety-of-vaccines.html>
3. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: <https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/making-vaccines/prevent-covid>
4. 211info COVID-19 Information and Resources: <https://covid19.211info.org/pediatric-vaccination>
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2023-09-12/11-COVID-Wallace-508.pdf>



For more information, visit: [www.boostoregon.org](http://www.boostoregon.org)

# COMFORTING YOUR CHILD WHEN GETTING THE VACCINE



- On the day of the appointment, talk about the day's events and plan something fun to do after the vaccine.
- Try holding your child in a way that's more like being hugged and less like being restrained. Breastfeeding or pacifiers may soothe your baby.
- Bring comforting items, like books or toys, to calm and distract.
- Ask your provider about the "Buzzy Bee," or a shot blocker to reduce pain.
- Be calm and positive. You will inspire your child to do the same.

**Learn more at: [www.boostoregon.org/comfort](http://www.boostoregon.org/comfort)**

## HOW MANY DOSES DOES MY CHILD NEED?

**Unvaccinated children 6 months to 4 years of age:**  
3 doses of Pfizer vaccine or 2 doses of Moderna vaccine.

**Unvaccinated children who are 5 years old:**  
1 dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

**Children 6 months to 5 years old who started but did not complete their vaccine series:**  
Complete the series with one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna updated vaccine, whichever brand matches their previous dose(s).

**Children 6 months to 5 years who completed the original vaccine series:** 1 dose of updated vaccine. (5)



### Sources

1. Our World in Data: <https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations>
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/safety-of-vaccines.html>
3. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia: <https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/making-vaccines/prevent-covid>
4. 211info COVID-19 Information and Resources: <https://covid19.211info.org/pediatric-vaccination>
5. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip/meetings/downloads/slides-2023-09-12/11-COVID-Wallace-508.pdf>



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