



GET THE FACTS

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs

COVID-19 Prevention

The best way to prevent COVID-19 during the ongoing pandemic is still to wash your hands frequently, keep your distance from others, and wear a mask in public.

Soon, you will also be able to receive a vaccine.

Here's what you need to know.

We understand that the COVID-19 vaccine is still new and unfamiliar, so we want to provide a simple guide to understanding it better. We're answering some of the most frequently asked questions here, and we encourage you to reach out to your provider for any information you may need related specifically to your care.

What is the COVID-19 vaccine, and how does it work?

The COVID-19 vaccine is an mRNA vaccine, meaning it takes advantage of the process that cells use to make proteins in order to build immunity to a particular virus. In contrast, most vaccines use weakened or inactivated versions of the disease-causing pathogen to stimulate the body's immune response to create antibodies.

What vaccination options are there and what are the differences between them?

There are currently two available vaccines: the Moderna vaccine and the Pfizer vaccine. Both have been shown to be over 94% effective, are preservative-free, and require two doses. The interval between the first and second dose of the Pfizer vaccine is 21 days; the interval between Moderna doses is 28 days. The Pfizer vaccine can be administered to patients age 16 and older, and the Moderna vaccine can be administered to patients 18 and older.

When can I get the vaccine?

Proactive MD is working tirelessly to obtain vaccines to administer to our patients. Currently, the CDC and state health agencies are guiding the administration of vaccines, and priority is being given to senior citizens and healthcare workers. It will become available to the general population throughout 2021, and we will make the vaccine available to you as soon as we receive it. Local pharmacies may also be able to administer vaccines to the general population soon.

While we have you... a note about at-home COVID-19 testing:

We understand the convenience of at home tests. However, testing at the wrong time or inappropriately can lead to erroneous results, which can then unknowingly continue the spread of COVID-19. We recommend you always contact a provider before obtaining and administering an at-home COVID-19 test to obtain adequate guidance on when to test, along with quarantine/isolation instructions.

Get more information on the COVID-19 vaccine from the CDC:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Pfizer-BioNTech.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/Moderna.html>

<https://www.fda.gov/media/144638/download>

<https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download>