COVID-19 Vaccines
What you should know

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. Read this information to learn more. Talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist if you have questions or concerns.

Getting the vaccine at Ohio State
You will be given an information sheet about the vaccine you are getting and a vaccine card. The vaccine is given as a shot with a needle into the muscle of your upper arm.
If you are not well, or have a fever of 100 degrees F or higher, you should wait until you are better to get the vaccine.

Plan for your appointment to take about 1 hour. You will need to wait for 15 to 30 minutes after getting the shot for a nurse to check for any reaction.

Your vaccine may be 1 or 2 doses. You may also be advised to get a third dose or a booster.

Side effects
The vaccines do not contain any live virus, so you cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine. You also are not able to pass COVID-19 on to anyone else by getting the vaccine.
Because the vaccines teach your body’s immune system how to recognize and fight the COVID-19 virus, you may have some signs that the vaccine is working.

Side effects may include:
- Fever or chills
- Muscle and joint pain
- Headache
- Tiredness
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
Side effects may occur the day after and last for 1 to 2 days.

If you need to call about your appointment
Call Ohio State’s Vaccine Hotline at 614-688-VAXX (8299) and select option 1 or 2:
Option 1: If you have been a patient at Ohio State and need to change, cancel or have questions about your appointment.
Option 2: If you have not been a patient at Ohio State and need to change, cancel or have questions about your appointment.

Need a ride to get your vaccine?
For a list of ride options to your next vaccine appointment:
Call 614-688-8299, option 4 or visit go.osu.edu/freeride.
You can also call 614-525-6200. Leave a message and a team member will call you back to help you find and schedule a ride.
Common site reactions
The most common side effects at the site where the vaccine is given include pain, swelling or redness. These often improve over the first 2 days. Some people see redness and swelling return a week later, but all redness and swelling should be gone by 2 weeks after the vaccine was given.

If you have site reactions for more than 2 weeks, or you have other questions about side effects, please contact your primary care doctor.

Vaccine protection
Maximum protection will be reached 2 weeks after your 1-dose vaccine or 2 weeks after your second dose of a 2-dose vaccine.

An additional dose of vaccine may be recommended for you. Talk to your health care provider for more information.

Keep the vaccine card you get today.

To learn more
• go.osu.edu/COVIDVaccine
• cdc.gov/coronavirus
• coronavirus.ohio.gov
• Ohio Department of Health Hotline: 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634)

Can we improve?
While your body is building protection, help us continue to improve our patients’ vaccination experience by leaving us a review for the location you got your vaccine. You will need a Google account to do this.

go.osu.edu/shotreview