



# COVID-19 Vaccine

\* Current as of January 19, 2021



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[hchealth.org](http://hchealth.org)



# WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT COVID-19?

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- Infection with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, can result in a range of illness, from mild symptoms to severe illness and death.
- We don't know how SARS-CoV-2 will affect each person.
- Some people, such as adults 65 and older or people with certain medical conditions, are more likely than others to become severely ill.



Source: CDC

# COMMON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

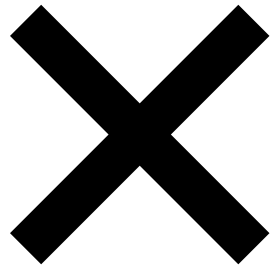
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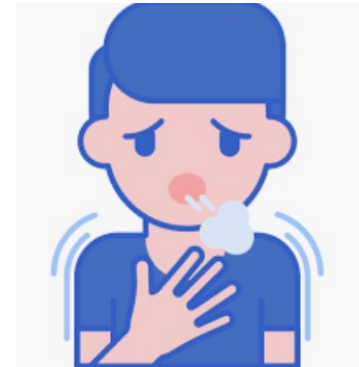
Cough



Fever



New loss of taste or smell



Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

# HOW IS COVID-19 SPREAD?

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- COVID-19 spreads very easily from **person to person**.
- Most commonly spreads through **close contact and exposure to respiratory droplets**.



Respiratory droplets released from the nose when a person sneezes.

Source: CDC

# WHAT ARE VACCINES?

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- Vaccines were created, and are recommended, to reduce your risk for infection or severe illness caused by infection; and, to protect yourself and others.
  - Example: Flu Shot, Measles, Chicken Pox, Human Papilloma Virus
- The COVID-19 vaccine is an mRNA vaccine that has been created to prevent COVID-19 infection or reduce your risk for severe illness from the disease if you are infected.



# WHY GET VACCINATED?

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## VACCINATION MAY:

- prevent infection from COVID-19
- reduce severe illness from COVID-19 infection
- protect YOU and OTHERS
- help our community's front-line health care workers, businesses, schools, etc.



# KEY FACTS ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINATION

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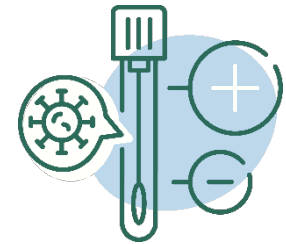
Getting vaccinated can help prevent getting sick with COVID-19



People who have already gotten sick with COVID-19 may still benefit from getting vaccinated



COVID-19 vaccines cannot give you COVID-19



COVID-19 vaccines will not cause you to test positive on COVID-19 viral tests\*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/vaccine-myths.html>

\*<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/testing-overview.html>

# WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF VACCINES?

DNA and RNA



Subunit



Viral vector



- **mRNA vaccines:** contain noninfectious material from a virus that provides instruction to our cells to create harmless protein unique to virus to promote an immune response that protects against future infection. These vaccines do not contain live virus or cause the disease to occur in the vaccinated person.
- **Protein subunit vaccines:** include harmless protein pieces from a virus instead of the entire germ which promotes an immune response.
- **Vector vaccines:** contain a weakened version of a live virus with genetic material that provides instruction to cells to create protein which promotes an immune response.

# WHAT ARE THESE NEW mRNA VACCINES?

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- mRNA technology is new, but not unknown. They have been studied for more than a decade.
- **COVID-19 vaccines are being held to the same safety standards as all vaccines.**
- There are systems in place that allow CDC and FDA to watch for safety issues:  
**V-safe: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html>**



# HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

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- Currently two vaccines have received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the FDA:
  - Pfizer-BioNTech: 2 doses, 3 weeks apart (age 16 years and older)
  - Moderna: 2 doses, 4 weeks apart (age 18 years and older)

Please note: The FDA continues the process of evaluating other vaccine candidates for EUA.

- The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is reporting that it is 95% effective against COVID-19 infection.
- The Moderna vaccine is reporting that it is 94.1% effective against COVID-19 infection, with 100% effectiveness against severe illness from COVID-19.
- Read more about these vaccines and the vaccine administration phases at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

# WHAT ARE POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS FROM THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

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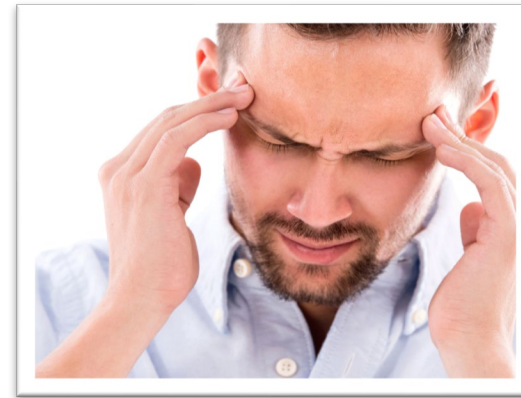
Injection Site Pain and/or Redness



Fatigue



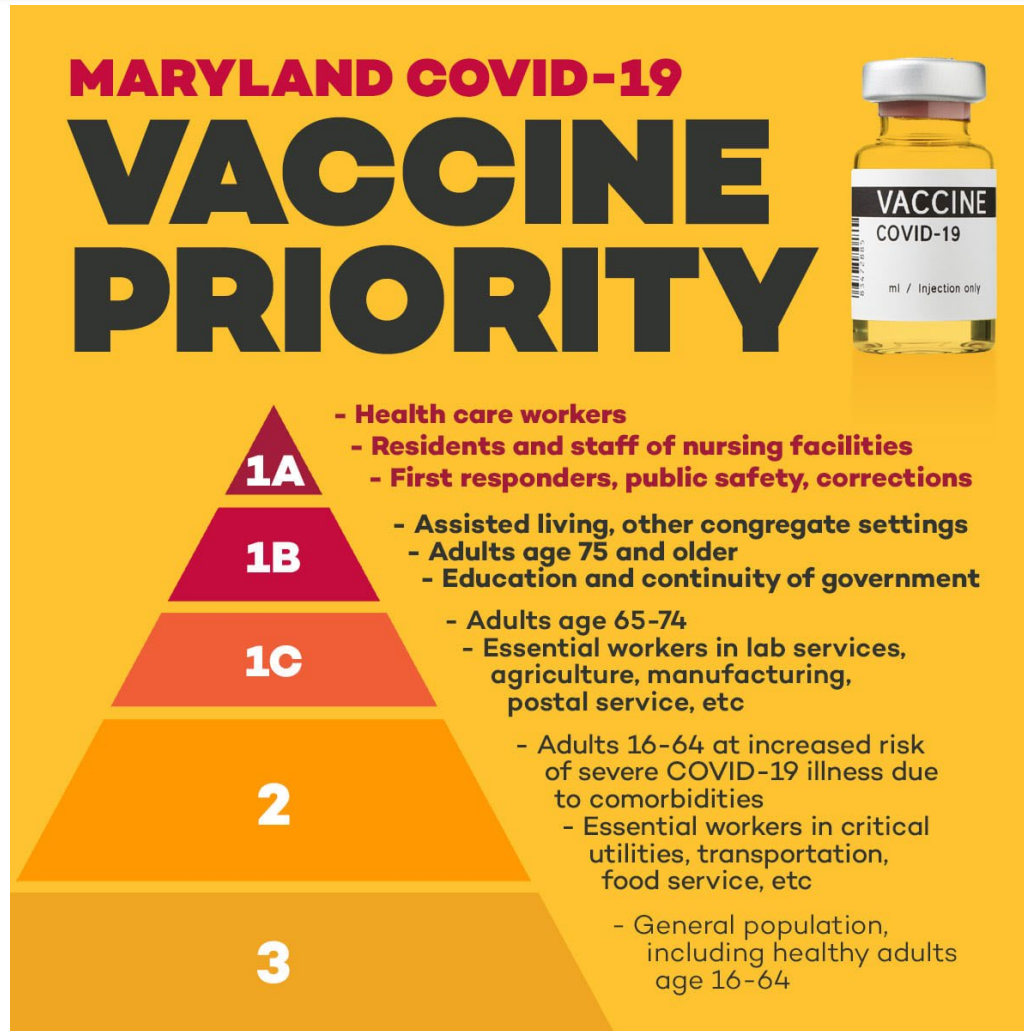
Muscle and/or Joint Pain



Headache

# WHEN CAN I BE VACCINATED?

\* Vaccine prioritization may be subject to change



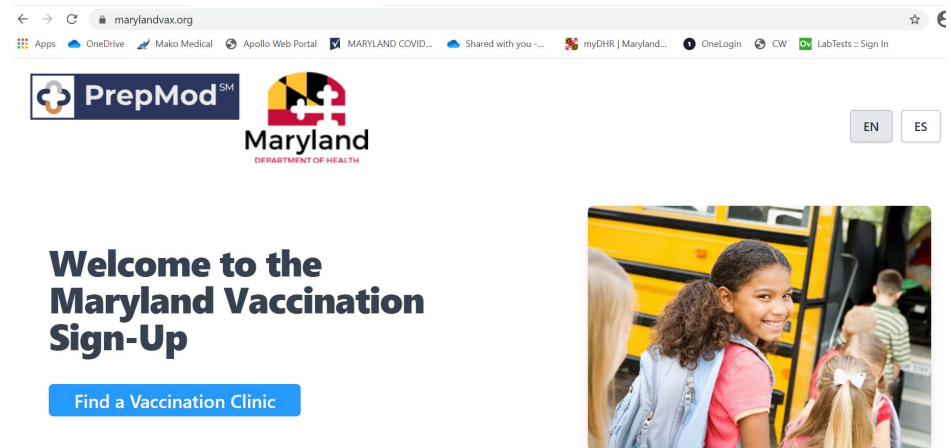
# MY PRIORITY GROUP IS NEXT- WHAT CAN I DO TO GET VACCINATED?

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- Please visit [hchealth.org](https://hchealth.org) to stay up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccine and priority group information.
- Please note that our site is updated regularly to include updates about priority groups as they are announced from the state.
- You may be asked to provide information by completing a survey to be added to our contact list. Then you will get a separate email with instructions for making an appointment and registration information.

# WHEN IT'S TIME, WHERE CAN I GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE & HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

- As more vaccine becomes available, and the number of places that can give the vaccine increase, you will have more options, much like seasonal flu vaccine.
- COVID-19 Vaccine is FREE but some vaccination providers will charge an administration fee for giving the shot to someone.
- When vaccine is available to the general public, registration will be through [www.marylandvax.org](http://www.marylandvax.org).



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [www.marylandvax.org](http://www.marylandvax.org). The page features the PrepMod logo, the Maryland Department of Health logo, and a navigation menu with 'EN' and 'ES' options. The main heading reads 'Welcome to the Maryland Vaccination Sign-Up' with a blue button labeled 'Find a Vaccination Clinic'. A photograph of children on a school bus is visible in the bottom right corner of the page.

# IF I GET THE VACCINE, DO I STILL HAVE TO WEAR A MASK?

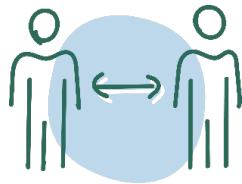
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## After Vaccination

- Continue COVID-19 prevention measures:



Cover your nose and mouth with a mask.



Stay at least 6 feet from people who don't live with you.



Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.



Wash your hands.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

- Enroll in **V-safe**
- If you have questions about your health and vaccination, call your doctor, nurse, or clinic.

Source: CDC

# IF I HAD COVID-19, DO I STILL NEED TO GET A VACCINE?

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- We don't know how long antibodies last after COVID-19 infection or whether these antibodies will protect a person from getting COVID-19 again.
- Due to the severe health risk associated with COVID-19, people may be advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have had or recovered from COVID-19.



# IF I HAVE ALLERGIES, CAN I STILL GET A VACCINE?

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The CDC Recommends that:

- people with a history of severe allergic reactions not related to vaccines or injectable medications—such as allergies to food, pet, venom, environmental, or latex—may still get vaccinated.
- people with a history of allergies to oral medications or a family history of severe allergic reactions, or who might have a milder allergy to vaccines (no anaphylaxis)—may also still get vaccinated.



## IF I HAVE ALLERGIES, CAN I STILL GET A VACCINE?

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CDC Recommends that:

- If a person has a severe allergic reaction after getting the first shot, they should not get the second shot. Their doctor may refer the person to a specialist in allergies and immunology to provide more care or advice.
- After getting the vaccine all people should be monitored for 15 minutes and people with a history of severe allergic reactions should be monitored for 30 minutes after

# UNTIL I CAN GET THE VACCINE- WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

- Stay COVID Safe!!
  - Covering your mouth/nose with a mask
  - Washing hands often with soap and water, or use hand-sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
  - Staying at least 6 feet away from others
  - Get Tested
  - Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.
- Get your vaccine when it becomes available to you and encourage other to get vaccinated too!
- Stay Connected and help others get connected too!





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