



# COVID-19 Vaccine

\* Current as of January 6, 2021



Promote. Preserve. Protect.

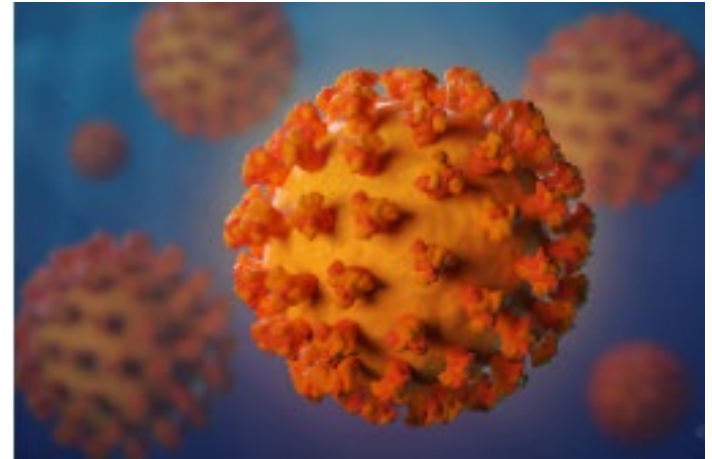
[hchealth.org](http://hchealth.org)



# WHAT IS COVID-19?

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- COVID-19 has had a devastating impact around the world. It has caused millions of severe illnesses and over 1.79 million deaths as of December 30, 2020.
- **COVID-19**, is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.
- Coronaviruses are a family of virus that can cause different illnesses.
- People sick with COVID-19 can have many symptoms or may be asymptomatic (have no symptoms). These symptoms may range from mild to severe.



The virus that causes coronavirus disease

# COMMON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

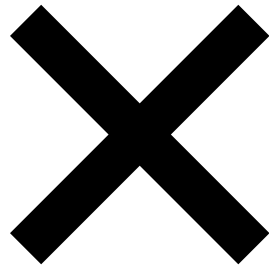
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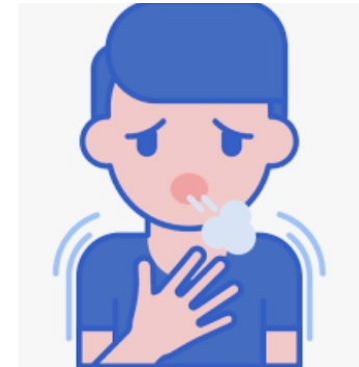
Cough



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.



# WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF VACCINES?

DNA and RNA



Subunit



Viral vector



- **mRNA vaccines:** contain non-infectious 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.
- Like all vaccines, COVID-19 mRNA vaccines have been tested and reviewed for safety before being used.



## HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE?

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- The FDA will determine what age groups and other populations are eligible for the vaccine. **Currently there are two types (Pfizer and Moderna) that have received Emergency Use Authorization.**
- **Both are given in 2-doses, either 21 or 28 days apart. You must get both doses to be protected**
- 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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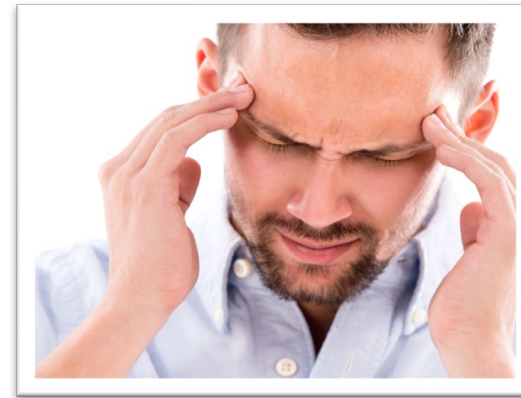
Injection Site Pain and/or Redness



Fatigue



Muscle and/or Joint Pain

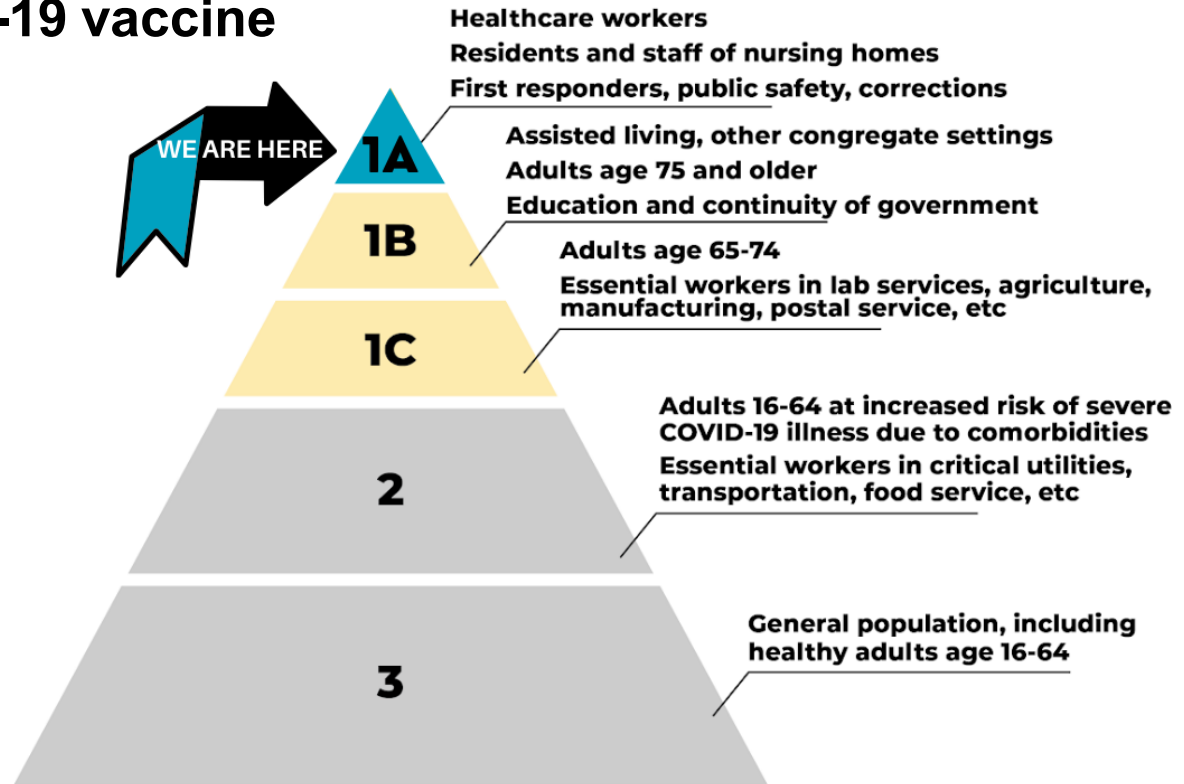


Headache

# WHEN CAN I BE VACCINATED?

## Maryland COVID-19 vaccine priority groups

\* Vaccine prioritization may  
be subject to change



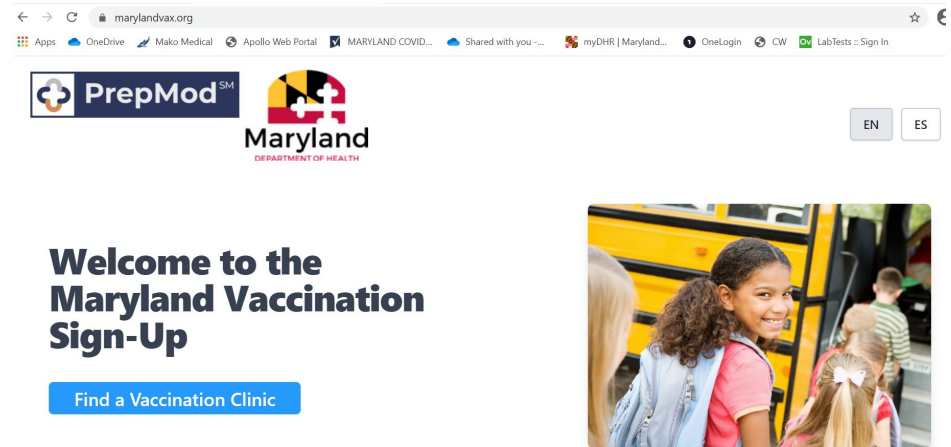
Vaccine prioritization subject to change. Current as of January 5, 2021.

StayCOVIDSafe



# 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).



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

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- It takes time for the vaccine to build up in your body and work.
- It is still important for everyone to keep using all the tools available to us to help stop this pandemic
  - Covering your mouth/nose with a mask
  - Washing hands often
  - Staying at least 6 feet away from others



# 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 they will protect against getting it again.
- Due to the severe health risk associated with COVID-19 and the fact that it is possible to get it again, people may be advised to get a COVID-19 vaccine even if they have been sick with COVID-19 before.



# 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

# WHAT DO I DO NOW?

- Stay COVID Safe!!
  - Covering your mouth/nose with a mask
  - Washing hands often
  - Staying at least 6 feet away from others
  - Get Tested
- Get your vaccine when it becomes available to you and encourage others to get vaccinated too!
- Stay Connected and help others get connected too!





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