

COVID-19 Vaccines

What you need to know:

FAQs and updates

COVID-19 Vaccines Available:

- **Comirnaty** (previously known as Pfizer) is a mRNA vaccine. It has received full FDA approval as of 8/23/2021.
- Per the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA): it is safe and effective in preventing COVID-19 in individuals 16 years of age and older. EUA continues for adolescents ages 12-15
- **Moderna** vaccine is also a mRNA vaccine that is still under EUA, but full FDA approval is expected soon. It currently is only approved for ages 18 years and older
- **Johnson & Johnson** vaccine is a viral vector vaccine. It is under EUA for ages 18 years and older. It is a one dose vaccine.

What if I am pregnant?

- Centers for Disease Control recommends that pregnant individuals be vaccinated against COVID-19
- Per the PA Department of Health: “Evidence about the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy has been growing. These data suggest that the benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweigh any known or potential risks of vaccination during pregnancy”
- <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2104983> New England Journal of Medicine

Can I get my COVID-19 vaccine with another vaccine?

- Yes!
- Per the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) you can receive the COVID-19 vaccine and other immunizations at the same time
- Masonic Village Pharmacy will work to coordinate joint COVID-19 and flu vaccine clinics if requested.

What about a Covid 19 Booster Shot?

When can I get a booster?

Covid 19 booster shots will be available in the fall, after **September 20**. Individuals will be eligible starting 8 months after they received their 2nd mRNA vaccine. ACIP is conducting an evaluation of this booster shot.

Who will be the first people to get a booster dose?

If FDA authorizes and ACIP recommends the first people eligible will be the first that received the COVID 19 vaccination, **healthcare providers, residents of LTC** and older adults.

Why is the US offering booster shots?

Covid 19 vaccine is highly effective in reducing severe disease, even against the Delta variant. Experts are looking at all available data to understand how well and how long the vaccines work against the new variants.

Will people who received the J&J vaccine need a booster?

It is likely that people who received the J&J vaccine will need a booster dose. Since J&J wasn't given in US till 70 days after the first mRNA vaccines were given, the data is not available yet. Information is expected in the coming weeks.

What about a Covid 19 Booster Shot?

Can people who received the J&J vaccine get a booster of mRNA?

NO There is not enough data to support getting a mRNA vaccine if your first vaccine was J&J. Likely the J&J will need a booster dose in the coming weeks.

Do people need to receive the same mRNA vaccine for the booster as their first two doses?

It is recommended that you receive the same mRNA vaccine that you received for the first two doses. If it is not available, you can receive the other mRNA vaccine.

What is the difference between a booster dose and an additional dose?

People who are immunocompromised do not build enough antibodies when the first are vaccinated. CDC recommends moderately to severely immunocompromised people to receive a 3rd dose of the mRNA vaccine, at least 28 days after last dose.

Questions?

- Your primary care provider is always a great resource
- Masonic Village Pharmacy 717-361-5599- for any questions
- Your community's Infection Preventionist and/or Nursing Administration is a great resource
- Your community's medical director
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration Website: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) | FDA](#)
- CDC Website: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) | CDC](#)
- PA Department of Health Website: [Vaccine FAQs \(pa.gov\)](#)