

KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT

After Your COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 vaccinations will help protect you from getting COVID-19. You may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. These side effects **may feel like the flu and may temporarily impact your ability to perform day-to-day activities**, but side effects should go away in a few days.



A COVID-19 vaccination card will be given to you at your appointment. It is recommended you take a picture of your card and keep it in a secure location.

It takes time for your body to build protection after any vaccination. With most COVID-19 vaccines, you will need **two shots** of the same vaccine. The vaccines will be most effective 2 weeks after your second dose. You should get the second shot even if you have side effects after the first one, unless a vaccination provider or your doctor advises against it.

After you have been fully vaccinated, it is important to continue to:

- **Wash your hands** and practice good hand hygiene.
- **Watch your distance** and **wear a mask** over your mouth and nose when around others outside of your household, especially if indoors.

If you get a COVID-19 vaccine and you think you might be having a severe allergic reaction after leaving the vaccination site, seek immediate medical care by calling 911.
Learn more at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/allergic-reaction.html

Common Side Effects

On the arm where you get the vaccine:

- Pain
- Swelling

Throughout the rest of your body:

- Fever
- Chills
- Tiredness
- Headache

Helpful Tips

In most cases, discomfort from fever or pain is normal. If you experience discomfort, talk to your doctor about taking an over-the-counter medicine, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.

To reduce discomfort where you got the shot:

- Apply a clean, cool, wet washcloth over the area.
- Use or exercise your arm.

To reduce discomfort from fever:

- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Dress lightly.

Contact Your Doctor

- If redness or tenderness where you got the shot increases after 24 hours.
- If your side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines, please visit:

coronavirus-sd.com/vaccine

