



Are the new vaccines effective?

Yes. Current science and research indicates that the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are highly effective at preventing symptoms, severe illness, and death.

The clinical trials for all three vaccines demonstrated that they were 100 percent effective in preventing deaths from COVID-19 in vaccinated persons.

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two doses, while the Johnson & Johnson vaccine only requires one dose. For most people, the best vaccine is the first one that becomes available to them.

Are the vaccines safe?

Yes. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Emergency Use Authorizations (EUA) for three COVID-19 vaccines that have proven to be safe and effective, as determined by data from the manufacturers and findings from the large clinical trials.

The research was not rushed, and no steps were skipped. Data show the known and potential benefits of all vaccines outweigh the known and potential risks of becoming infected with COVID-19.

Did scientists take all the necessary and important steps to develop the vaccines?

Yes. Scientists drew from research conducted for SARS-CoV in 2003 and MERS in 2012, which shortened the average time to develop a vaccine from scratch. The Moderna vaccine, for example, was developed as early as February 2020, but had to be tested on thousands of volunteers for months to make sure it was safe. The first three vaccines were authorized only after they had been tested on more than 100,000 people.

What do I need to know about the Johnson & Johnson vaccine?

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is approved for people 18 years and older. It is a single dose vaccine. It is available at no cost.

An analysis by the FDA found that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine was 85 percent effective at preventing severe COVID-19 and 100 percent effective at preventing death. In the U.S., the single dose was 72 percent effective at preventing moderate to severe disease.

A single dose vaccine is more convenient than a two-dose vaccine. People who can't take time away from work to receive two doses or who don't have a regular doctor will be fully vaccinated after one dose.

Public health departments can quickly distribute single doses of the Janssen vaccine to people who cannot easily make second appointments — such as people who are without stable housing or those who are leaving a hospital.



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