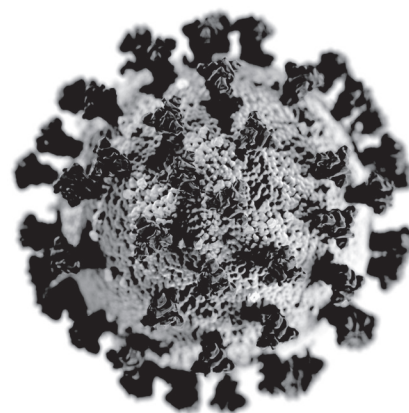


Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine



Frequently Asked Questions

How well does it work?

In vaccine trials, it was as much as 95% effective at preventing infection around two weeks after the second dose. The vaccine might be less effective in the elderly and those with a weak immune system.

Will it protect me against variants?

Early study results show that this vaccine is 87 – 89.5% effective against B.1.1.7 and 72.1 – 75% effective against B.1.135 variants.

How long will the vaccine protect me?

We do not know how long it will be effective for, or if a booster shot is needed. The vaccine company follows their trial subjects for two years. Over time, these answers will be clearer.

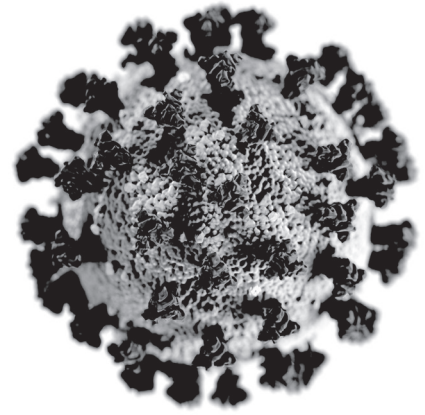
What are the side effects?

The common side effects include pain at the injection site, body chills, tiredness, and fever. These side effects go away on their own in a day or so. As with all vaccines, allergies or other serious reactions can happen. This is rare. Health Canada continuously reviews the safety and effectiveness of vaccine. If there are concerns, they respond quickly to ensure the safety of Canadians. No major concerns have been identified so far.

Can children get the vaccine?

Since the beginning of May 2021, the Pfizer vaccine has been approved for children 12 years and older.

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine



Frequently Asked Questions

If I am pregnant or breastfeeding, can I get this vaccine?

Yes, you can. If you are pregnant, you are now in highest priority group recommended for COVID-19 vaccination.

I have allergies. Can I get the vaccine?

Yes but speak with a community health physician before being vaccinated. You may be asked to wait 30 minutes after to make sure you are feeling well before you leave the clinic.

I had COVID-19. Should I get the vaccine?

Yes, you should get the vaccine even if you had COVID-19. But, if you are sick right now, or have been in the past 3 months, talk with your community health team first.

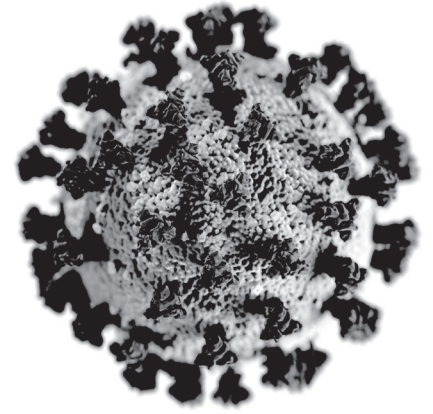
Can I get sick with COVID-19 from the vaccine?

No. You can not get COVID-19 from the vaccine. There is no COVID-19 virus in it.

Can I get COVID-19 after being vaccinated?

You have a lower risk of getting sick and would likely have milder symptoms. You can still become infected and spread it to others, even if you have no signs or symptoms.

Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine



INFORMED CONSENT

Informing is a great opportunity for every person whether you are:

- already decided or undecided
- confident or uncertain
- for or against

COVID-19 vaccination is voluntary. Informed consent is the choice you make to be vaccinated. Your community health or pandemic response teams will provide info about COVID-19 and the vaccine being offered. This might happen before your community holds a vaccine clinic, so that when the time comes, things can roll out smoothly.

Take the time you have now to think things through. It is okay to be curious, ask questions, and talk about your concerns with these trusted community members. They have knowledge about COVID-19 and the vaccine. It is good to listen to what they share with you. It is important to remember that our decisions and actions will affect those around us.

To Learn More:

<https://covid-vaccine.canada.ca/info/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine-en.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/05/health-canada-authorizes-use-of-the-pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine-in-children-12-to-15-years-of-age.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines/pfizer-biontech.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/extended-dose-intervals-covid-19-vaccines-early-rollout-population-protection.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p0329-COVID-19-Vaccines.html>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamhaseltine/2021/05/06/vaccines-vs-variants-three-new-studies-show-the-effectiveness-of-pfizer-and-moderna-vaccines/?sh=105944ed5c33>

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/12/09/1013538/what-are-the-ingredients-of-pfizers-covid-19-vaccine/>

<https://www.yalemedicine.org/news/covid-19-vaccine-comparison>