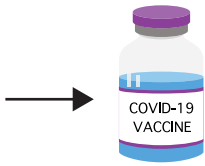# COVID-19 Vaccines
What Teens Need to Know

Ages 12 & up
FULL DOSE

CAN I GET A COVID-19 VACCINE?
Yes!

- If you are 12 and older, you get the same **Pfizer** vaccine as adults. (Kids ages 5-11 get a version with a lower dose).
- The vaccine is given as a **2-dose primary series** 21 days apart. Plus a **booster dose** 5 months later, if 12 and older.
- The vaccine can be given at the same time as other vaccines like flu or HPV.
- Vaccines are **free** even if you don't have insurance.
- You will not be asked about your immigration status.

WHY GET VACCINATED FOR COVID-19

- Getting vaccinated is the best way to **protect yourself, your friends, and your family**. While many young people who get COVID-19 have mild or no symptoms, some do get very sick or have health problems that last a long time. If you get COVID-19, you can spread the virus to others even if you don't feel sick.
- Getting vaccinated will make it safer to play sports, hang out with friends, or travel to visit family.
- Some school districts will require it.
- If you are fully vaccinated, you won't need to test to play most sports or go to events. And you may not need to quarantine if you've been in contact with someone who has COVID-19.

WHERE CAN I GET A VACCINE?

COVID vaccines are available at many doctors' offices, clinics, schools, & pharmacies. Visit **VaccinateLACounty.com** to find a site near you. If you are under 18, make sure they have the Pfizer vaccine and ask how parent/caregiver consent should be given. If you are in foster care, your caregiver or group home staff can provide consent as long as you agree.

Call the DPH Vaccine Call Center at **833-540-0473** or **2-1-1** if you need help finding a vaccine, transportation to a site, or to request in-home vaccination.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

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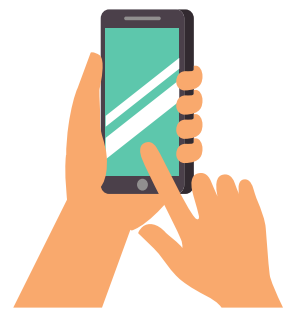
COVID-19 Vaccines
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WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?

- Side effects are common and a sign that your immune system is **building protection**.
- They may include sore or red arm, feeling tired, fever, chills, headache or muscle ache. Not everyone will get them. They should go away in a day or two.

ARE COVID-19 VACCINES SAFE?

Yes!

- The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has been closely monitored and tested. It is safe and effective for teens. Since being authorized, **millions of 12 to 17-year-olds** have safely received the vaccine.
- Severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) can happen after any vaccine, including the COVID-19 vaccine - but this is **rare**.
- A small number of people, especially male teenagers and young adults have had inflammation of the heart (myocarditis and pericarditis) after getting a Pfizer vaccine. The condition is rare, and most cases are mild and respond well to treatment and rest. Your risk of myocarditis or other heart conditions is much higher if you get COVID-19.
- You **can't get COVID-19** from the vaccine. None of the vaccines have the virus that causes COVID-19.
- There is no evidence that the COVID-19 vaccine affects teenage development or your ability to have kids.

BEFORE YOU GET VACCINATED

- Talk to your doctor, parent/guardian, or other trusted adult about the COVID-19 vaccine. Ask them any questions you may have.
- Be sure the vaccine clinic you are going to is giving the Pfizer vaccine.
- If you are under 18, make sure you have gotten **parent/caregiver consent**.

VaccinateLACounty.com

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