



Side Effects of COVID-19 Vaccination

While the benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine outweigh the risks of getting vaccinated, it is possible that your child **MAY** have some mild or moderate side effects after getting the first or second dose of COVID-19 vaccine. This is normal and is a sign that your child's body is building protection (immunity) against COVID. (Some people have no side effects after getting vaccinated.)

While these mild or moderate side effects may affect your child's ability to do their normal daily activities, they are temporary and should go away on their own.

These common side effects usually start within a day or two of getting the shot and should go away in a few days.

Children may experience pain, redness or swelling on the arm where they got the shot, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, fever, nausea, swollen lymph nodes on side of body where they got the shot (not as common as the side effects listed above)

Contact your child's healthcare provider if the redness or tenderness where the shot was given gets worse after 24

hours or if the side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days.

What if my child has pain or discomfort after the COVID-19 shot?

Talk to your child's healthcare provider about giving your child over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin), acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol), for any pain and discomfort after getting vaccinated. They can take these medications to relieve side effects if they have no other medical reasons that prevent them from taking these medications normally.

It is **not recommended** to give your child these medicines before vaccination for the purpose of trying to prevent side effects.

The **CDC says** that it is unlikely for people to get long-term side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine. There are years of research and vaccine safety monitoring on other vaccines that show side effects almost always happen within six weeks of getting a vaccine.