Will I be billed for the vaccine or health care visit?

No. Your insurance may be billed, but you will not be charged a copay or any other fee for the vaccine.

Is my personal information protected?

Your personal information is strictly protected. Basic information about you (such as your name, address, phone number, date of birth, vaccination date and vaccine received) will be shared with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC Health Department) as required by law.

What if I have other questions?

You can call the provider who gave you the vaccine or your health care provider. You can also call **311**.

Where can I get more information?

NYC Health Department:
nyc.gov/covidvaccine

NYC Health + Hospitals:
healthandhospitals.org/covidvaccine

New York State Department of Health:
covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov

CDC:
cdc.gov/covidvaccine
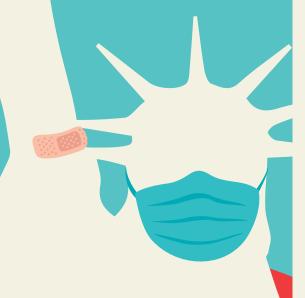
NYC Health

NYC HEALTH+HOSPITALS

The NYC Health Department may change recommendations as the situation evolves. **1.12.21**

What You Need to Know After Getting Your COVID-19 Vaccine

NYC VACCINE FOR ALL: SAFE, FREE, EASY

nyc.gov/covidvaccine

Before you leave the vaccination site:

- If this is your first shot, make an appointment to get your second shot, which should be given three weeks (Pfizer) or four weeks (Moderna) after the first shot.

- Make sure you get a vaccination card. It will say which vaccine you got and the date you received it. Bring this card to your second dose appointment, which must be at the same location as your first dose. After your second dose, make sure your vaccination card has been updated to show both doses.

What are the side effects of the vaccine?

Common side effects are soreness or swelling on the arm where you got the shot, headache, body aches, tiredness and fever. Side effects are more common after the second dose and less common in older adults. Side effects usually:
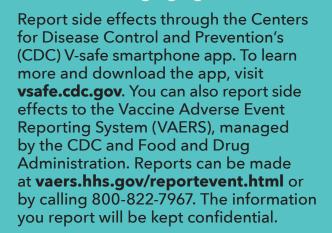
- Are mild to moderate

- Start within the first three days after vaccination (the day after vaccination is the most common)

- Last about one to two days after they begin

What should I do if I have side effects?

Call your health care provider if you have any side effects that concern you or do not go away after a few days, or if the redness or soreness where you got the shot increases after 24 hours. Talk to your provider about taking an over-the-counter medicine, such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil).

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Get the second shot even if you have side effects after the first shot, unless your provider tells you not to.

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Report side effects through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) V-safe smartphone app. To learn more and download the app, visit **vsafe.cdc.gov**. You can also report side effects to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), managed by the CDC and Food and Drug Administration. Reports can be made at **vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html** or by calling 800-822-7967. The information you report will be kept confidential.

Is it possible to have an allergic reaction to the vaccine?

Based on what we currently know, allergic reactions are uncommon. Allergic reactions generally start within a few minutes to an hour of getting the shot. Signs of a severe allergic reaction include difficulty breathing, swelling of your face and throat, fast heartbeat, a rash all over your body, dizziness and weakness. If you think you are having a severe allergic reaction, call **911** or go to the nearest hospital.

Does the second dose need to be the same type of vaccine as my first dose?

Yes. Both doses should be of the same vaccine. If you receive the Pfizer vaccine, you should get a second dose of the Pfizer vaccine 21 days later. If you receive

the Moderna vaccine, you should get a second dose of the Moderna vaccine 28 days later.

When does the vaccine start working?

While you may get some protection after the first dose, the vaccine is much more effective after two doses. You will not have full protection from the vaccine until one to two weeks after your second dose.

Can I stop taking other COVID-19 precautions after I am vaccinated?

No. You must still practice prevention measures after vaccination:

- Stay home if you are sick.

- Stay at least 6 feet from others.

- Wear a face covering.

- Wash your hands and use hand sanitizer often.

While COVID-19 vaccines have been shown to protect people from COVID-19, we need to learn more about how long protection lasts and if the vaccine prevents transmission.