







Side-by-Side Comparison: COVID-19 Vaccines

When it's your turn, GET VACCINATED!

All of these COVID-19 vaccines will protect you, but here's a side-by-side comparison. Remember to talk with your doctor if you have concerns about getting the vaccine.

	Pfizer	Moderna	Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)	AstraZeneca	Novavax
Number of doses	2, 21 days apart	2, 28 days apart	1	2, 4-12 weeks apart	2, 21 days apart
 Approved for what ages?	12 years +	18 years +			
Effectiveness against death	100%				
Effective against current variants	Yes				
 Effectiveness against disease in U.S. clinical trials	95% 86% in 65+	94.1% 86% in 65+	72% 86% against severe disease	70% 100% for severe disease	95.6% (UK trials)
Emergency Use Authorization	Dec. 11, 2020	Dec. 18, 2020	Feb. 27, 2021*	Not Approved in U.S.	Not Approved
 Type of Vaccine	mRNA		Viral vector		Recombinant protein/ adjuvants
Most common side effects	Fatigue, headache, chills, muscle pain				
Testing for children?	Yes, ages 12-15	Yes, ages 12-17	TBD		
 Who should not get the vaccine?	History of allergic reaction to polyethylene glycol, polysorbate or other vaccine ingredients Allergic reaction to first dose		History of severe reaction to vaccine ingredients, risk of rare blood clot in women under age 50	TBD	

Disclaimer: A direct comparison of effectiveness between the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines vs. the other vaccines can't be made, as COVID-19 was not as prevalent in the mRNA trials, and the variants had not developed.

* EUA was paused April 13, 2021 and amended April 23, 2021 to include risk of rare blood clot in women under age 50.

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