

Vaccines to significantly reduce the risk of infection from COVID-19 have become available. All District residents age 12 and older are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. There are many reasons to get the vaccine. The most compelling one is that it could protect you and those around you from this life-threatening virus.

FOUR REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE

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IT'S SAFE.

The FDA will only approve vaccines for release under these emergency conditions that have data proving its safety and that meet or exceed minimum efficacy thresholds.

IT'S EFFECTIVE.

It's the most effective way to prevent getting COVID-19, and experts believe it may help you from getting seriously ill even if (much like the flu) you do get the virus.

IT'S FREE!

Providers must vaccinate persons regardless of their ability to pay.
Providers may be able to charge an office visit fee, or administration fee, though this fee can be billed to insurance or Medicare/Medicaid.

MINIMAL SIDE EFFECTS.

More than 70,000 people who voluntarily got the vaccine in clinical trials had very low rates of side effects, most common were sore arms at the injection site, some fever or body aches.

OTHER IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE

- The Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines use two shots, administered three weeks apart, to provide the best protection. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is a single shot.
- The vaccine has been tested on more than 70,000 people who volunteered for large-scale clinical trials already.
- Vaccine manufacturers also asked thousands of people from communities of color including Black and Latinx/a/o individuals to participate in their clinical trials.
- If you have tested positive for COVID-19, ask your health care provider if you should be vaccinated.
- You will still need to practice other precautions like wearing a mask, social distancing, handwashing and other hygiene measures until public health officials say otherwise.
- At this time, the vaccine is not recommended for children under 12 years of age. The Pfizer vaccine is the only vaccine available individuals 12 and older.

