



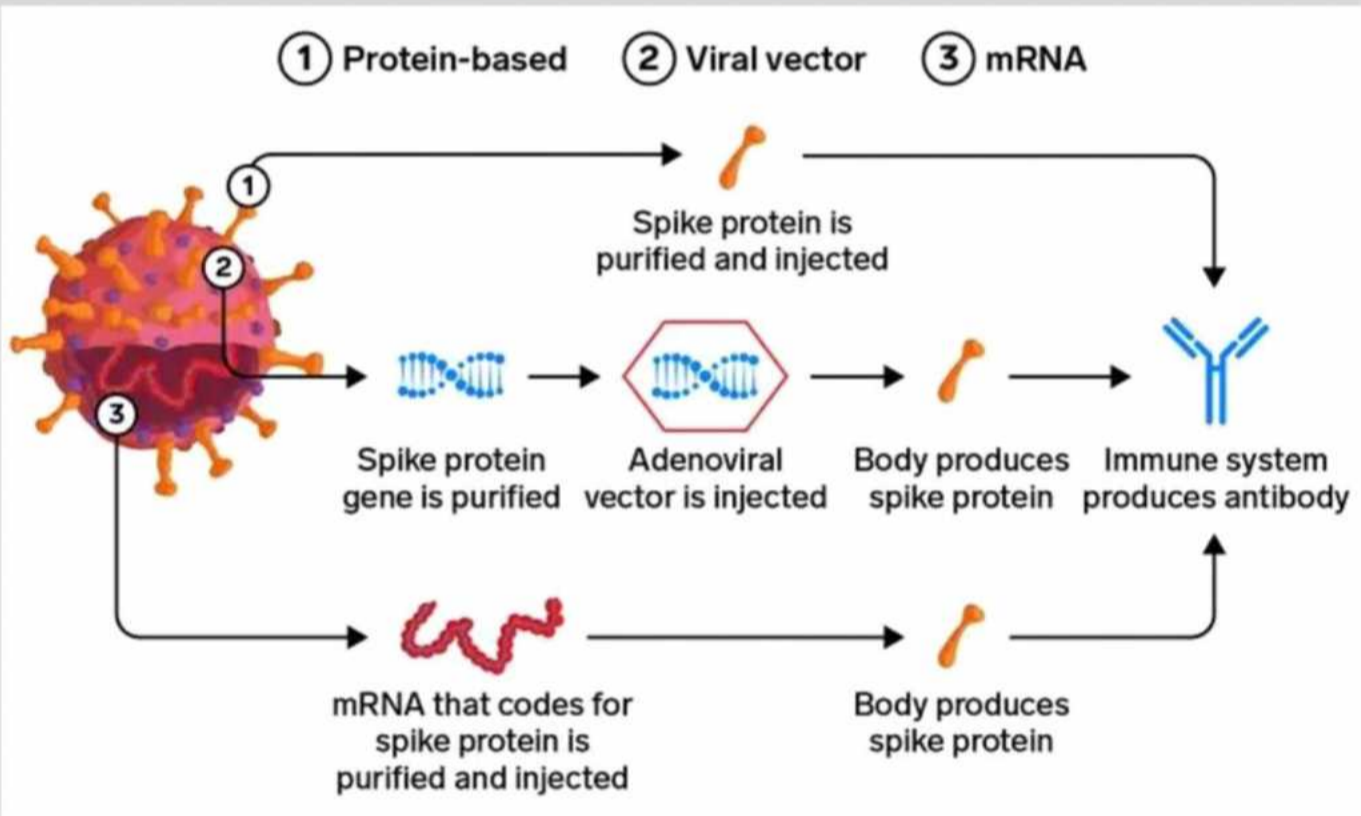
Vaccinate with Confidence

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Vaccinate with Confidence.

COVID-19 VACCINE FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

What types of vaccines will be available?



Source: National Institutes of Health Presentation at Senate hearing on September 9, 2020.

Several vaccines are going through clinical trials and may soon become available with an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) issued by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Three main types of COVID-19 vaccines may become available in the United States: protein-based, viral vector, and mRNA.

1. Protein-based vaccines contain harmless proteins of the virus. Our body recognizes these as foreign and builds white blood cells to fight them.
2. Viral vector vaccines contain a vector, which is a weak version of a live virus. Once you get the vaccine, the viral vector enters and gives instructions to our cells to make harmless proteins that mimic the virus.
3. mRNA vaccines contain genetic material from the virus that causes COVID-19. This material gives instructions to our cells to make harmless proteins that mimic the virus.

These vaccines have one thing in common. They allow the body to start building a way to protect itself against COVID. Afterward, cells are left in the body to recognize the virus in case we are exposed in the future.

Most of the COVID-19 vaccines may be given in two shots a few weeks apart. One of the COVID-19 vaccines is given as a single shot.

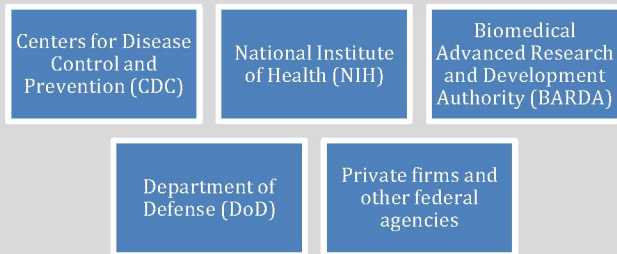
What is an EUA?

The Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) is the authority given by the FDA that helps the nation's public health to protect against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) threats by making available the use of medical countermeasures (MCM) during emergencies.



What is Operation Warp Speed?

Operation Warp Speed (OWS) is a partnership among components of the Department of Health and Human Services, working with private firms and other agencies, that organizes efforts to speed up the process to make and deliver safe and effective vaccines. The goal of OWS is "to produce and deliver 300 million doses of safe and effective vaccines with the initial doses available by January 2021, as part of a broader strategy to accelerate the development, manufacturing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics (collectively known as countermeasures)."



Why should I get the vaccine?

What we know about COVID-19 is that it can cause serious illness and even death. Getting the vaccine can help to protect a person by causing the body to create a response against the virus. It can also help to prevent the spreading of the virus to other people.



Is the vaccine safe?

Before vaccines are made available to the public, large clinical trials are done to test the vaccines for safety and effectiveness. There were tens of thousands of participants in the COVID-19 vaccine trials. The U.S. Vaccine Safety System also makes sure that the vaccines are as safe as possible. After you get the vaccine, you will be observed for at least 15 minutes to monitor for any reactions. If any person experiences an adverse reaction, it will be reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).

What should I expect after getting the vaccine? Will I get sick from it?

Like other vaccines, your arm may be red or sore, which should go away in a few days. You may also have a headache or fever, which is a sign that your body is building protection against the virus.

Are there long-term problems that can arise from getting the vaccine?

The disease and vaccine are both very new. The current information about safety is what was reported during the clinical trials. Participants in the COVID-19 vaccine trials were monitored for 2 months after getting the vaccine. Most vaccine-related side effects (also called adverse reactions) happen within 6 weeks after getting the vaccine. However, as the vaccine is given to more people, safety will continue to be tracked. If there are any safety issues, immediate action will be taken.

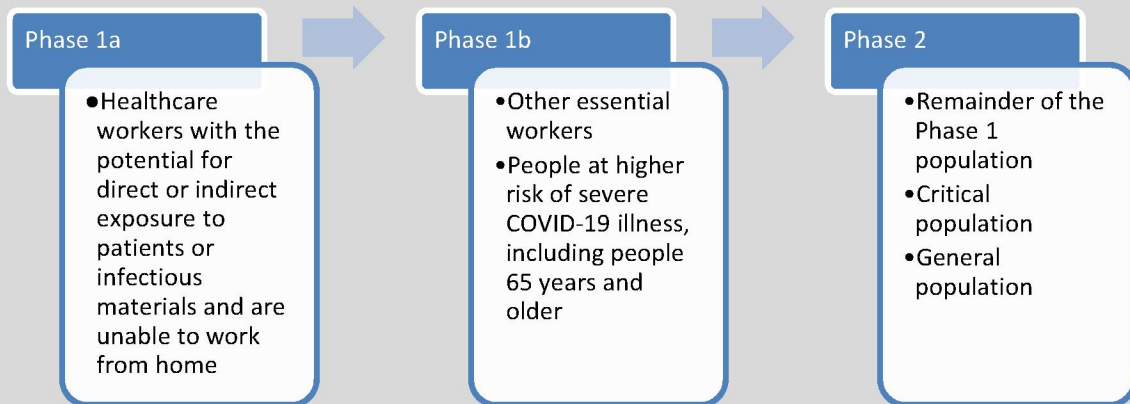
Can I get the vaccine if I already had COVID-19?

Yes. Due to the severe health risks associated with COVID-19 and the fact that re-infection with COVID-19 is possible, a vaccine should be offered to you regardless of whether you already had a COVID-19 infection. At this time, experts do not know how long someone is protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19.



Current information says that COVID-19 vaccines are safe if you have been sick with COVID-19 in the past 90 days. Since reinfection isn't likely to happen in the 90 days after you're sick with COVID-19, you can delay getting a shot until 90 days after your infection. You should not get the shot while sick or during the isolation/quarantine period. If you have questions as to whether it is the right time to receive the vaccine, you should consult with your medical provider.

Who is eligible to get the vaccine?

Depending on the available supply, the vaccine may be available in phases. New Jersey intends to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) framework for Phases 1a and 1b.



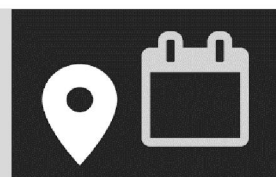
What needs to be done before getting the vaccine?

-  Acknowledge receipt of the EUA fact sheet
-  Acknowledge that your vaccine doses will be registered with New Jersey Immunization Information System (NJIS)*

*The purpose of registering with NJIS is to keep a record of your vaccine history in one place. This information may be shared with health care providers, insurance companies, and more, as allowed by New Jersey law.

When and where can I get the vaccine?

Vaccines may become available soon. Once available, they will be given out at various places across the country.



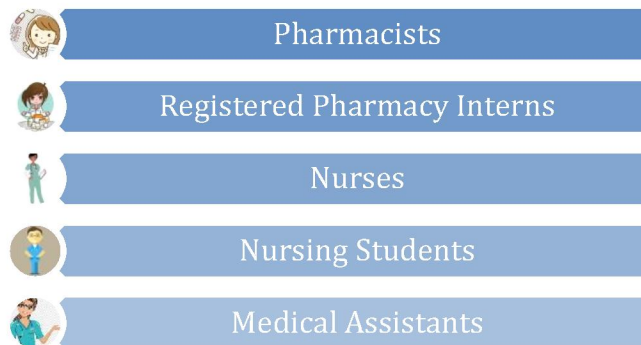
Is drive-thru available?

Drive-thru is not available at this time at HNMC.

Do I have to pay for the vaccine?

Vaccine doses are provided by the U.S. government at no cost. However, vaccine providers may charge a fee for giving the vaccine to someone, which may get reimbursed by your insurance company or by the Health Resources and Services Administration's Provider Relief Fund (for those without insurance).

Who will be giving the vaccine?



What to expect the day of:

- You will be given a scheduled appointment time.
- You may register ahead of time. You will be automatically opted in to the NJIIS registry. You may view the EUA fact sheet during registration and at check-in.
- The vaccine is stored in the freezer and will be thawed and brought to room temperature before it is given in the arm.
- After your vaccine is given, you must remain in the room for 15 minutes to be observed for possible side effects.
- You should expect the entire process to take about 30 minutes.

What should I expect after getting the vaccine?

You will need to come back for a second dose of the vaccine a few weeks after the first dose. It is still important to continue to wear a mask and practice hand hygiene, social distancing, and other infection protection measures as dictated by state and federal law to avoid the spreading of the virus.

What should I do if I feel ill after getting the vaccine?

If you experience any side effects, or feel sick after getting the vaccine with any of the symptoms described in the tables to the right, you should let your doctor know immediately.

COVID-19 Symptoms

- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Chills/Body aches
- Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Temperature above 100°F

Vaccine/Flu-like Symptoms

- Soreness, redness, and/or swelling from the shot
- Headache
- Fever
- Nausea
- Muscle aches

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