

We now have vaccines to protect us from COVID-19

Here's what you need to know



- **All vaccines are safe and effective.**
The best vaccine is the one you can get. All vaccines that have been approved in the US are safe and effective in preventing severe illness and death. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the vaccines for emergency use, and doctors and independent experts confirmed they meet high safety standards.
- **The vaccines are free.**
The federal government will cover the cost of your vaccine.
- **You may need two doses.**
Depending on which vaccine you receive, you may get a single dose or two doses, three to four weeks apart.
- **You may feel side effects.**
Like other routine vaccines, you may get a sore arm, fever, headaches, or tired after getting vaccinated. These are signs that the vaccine is working. You CANNOT catch COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- **People at highest risk get the vaccine first.**
Everyone will be able to get vaccinated when we have enough doses. The first doses are going to people at higher risk. Visit www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine to find out when you can get the vaccine.
- **Some people should not get the vaccine.**
You can get the vaccine even if you have had COVID-19. Children under 12 cannot yet receive a vaccine. You should tell your vaccine provider if you have a fever, have a history of severe allergic reactions, have a bleeding disorder or take blood thinners, have immunity problems, or are pregnant.
- **Stay safe after the vaccine.**
After you get the vaccine, you can gather in small groups without masks or physical distancing. But if you are with people who have not had the vaccine, you still need to wear your mask, stay six feet apart, and wash your hands often.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE VACCINE AT:

Greater Lowell Health Alliance: greaterlowellhealthalliance.org/covid-19

Lowell Community Health Center: lchealth.org/patients/covid-19-updates

CDC: cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html

MA DPH: mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information# covid-19-vaccine-

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#ThisIsMyWhy

*Source: CDC | Rev 5/14/21