

Infant/Toddler COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ

Top Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is the vaccine safe?

Yes! Clinical trials involving thousands of infants and toddlers 6 months and older firmly show that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective in this population. COVID-19 vaccines remain the safest way to prevent hospitalization and death from the virus for everyone 6 months and older.

2. Why should I consider vaccinating my young child?

COVID-19 can make children and teens very sick. Reinfection is possible, and a previous infection does not mean your child is safe from the worst outcomes of COVID-19. COVID-19 has become one of the top five leading causes of death in children.

3. Should I wait for my doctor to tell me when my child is eligible for vaccination?

Beginning June 20, 2022, California began distributing doses to pediatricians and clinics for children aged 6 months through 4 years. In addition, doses are readily available for all people aged 5 and older. Parents and caregivers should contact their child's pediatrician or medical care provider, local health department or clinic, or visit Myturn.ca.gov to find a vaccine near them.

4. Is the COVID-19 vaccine dosage for children the same as for adults?

Children receive a smaller, age-appropriate dose that is the right size for them. Comprehensive clinical trials confirmed the dosage amounts for infants and toddlers are safe and effective.

5. If my child had COVID already, do they need the vaccine?

Yes. Because reinfection can occur, children should get vaccinated even if they have been infected previously with COVID-19. Some immunity gained from prior infection is helpful, but it doesn't make your child safe from the worst outcomes of COVID-19. Studies have shown that getting our children vaccinated is the safest way to protect them from hospitalization, long COVID, Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) and death.