

Providers and Clinic Staff – Vaccine Talking Points with Patients July 12, 2021

Encouraging Patient Vaccination

As patient-facing providers and staff, we ask that you please continue to encourage patients, their families, and the community to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

At AltaMed, we have administered more than 65,000 total doses to patients, staff, and community members. Currently, we are providing all three COVID-19 vaccines and those age 12 and older are eligible to receive vaccines in both Los Angeles and Orange counties.

As a reminder, the Pfizer vaccine is administered to those 12 years and older, while the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are administered to those 18 and older.

Please encourage your patients to ask questions and come to AltaMed as their trusted health care provider and resource. Remind them we are dedicated to their overall health and well-being.

AltaMed Current Vaccination Locations

Providers and Staff: Check with your Clinic Administrators for new sites and vaccine dates or refer to the [COVID-19 Alerts](#) for updated information.

As we continue to vaccinate our patients, we want to make sure every patient, who has not yet received a vaccine, is able to at our clinics. Please talk to your patients coming in for a face-to-face visit who have not yet been vaccinated about getting the vaccine. Offer them the vaccine if you are currently providing vaccines at your site, or schedule them for a vaccination at the nearest location. In addition, we want to encourage providing vaccines to our patients who come in as walk-ins.

How to Make an Appointment

- AltaMed Patients:
 - [MyAltaMed.net](https://www.myaltamed.net) if they already have an existing account
 - AltaMed Vaccine Hotline at (888) 909-5232
 - [MyTurn](#)

AltaMed Vaccination Sites

- AltaMed General Pediatrics at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (Sundays and Mondays)
- AltaMed Medical Group – Northgate Market, Olympic (Fridays)
- AltaMed General Pediatrics – Westlake, 3rd Street (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)
- AltaMed Medical and Dental Group – Commerce, Goodrich (Thursdays 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)
- AltaMed Medical and Dental Group – East Los Angeles, 1st Street (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Medical Group – Westlake, 3rd Street (Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays)
- AltaMed Daniel V. Lara Clinic – East Los Angeles (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Medical and Dental Group – El Monte (Every Monday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
- AltaMed Medical and Dental Group – Huntington Beach (Thursdays and Fridays)

AltaMed Pharmacy Sites

- AltaMed Pharmacy – Anaheim (Thursdays)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – Boyle Heights (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – Commerce (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – Commerce, Goodrich (Thursdays and Saturdays)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – Huntington Park (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – Pico Rivera, Passons (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – Santa Ana, Bristol (Monday to Friday)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – South Gate (Thursdays)
- AltaMed Pharmacy – West Covina (Saturdays)

Talking Points for Staff to Share with Patients:

1. We know you may be worried about the safety of the vaccines. Please know the vaccines were not developed overnight. Years of previous research about other coronaviruses gave science a head start. Then months of clinical trials, planning, and many other steps helped to ensure the safety of the current vaccines. So far, more than 300,000,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been given in the United States since December 2020. If we did not feel the vaccines were safe, we would not take them ourselves or make them available to our patients and the community. Scientists are closely monitoring the vaccines for any safety concerns.
2. The Johnson & Johnson/Janssen (J&J/Janssen) vaccine is safe. The CDC and the FDA recommended that use of the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine resume in the United States (as of April 23). However, women younger than 50 years old should be aware of the rare risk of blood clots with low platelets after vaccination, and other COVID-19 vaccines are available where this risk has not been seen.
3. Every Californian age 12 and older is eligible for vaccination. Vaccination for those less than 12 years is still in the testing phase, along with recommendations for booster vaccines in the future.
4. You are not fully protected with just one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. These COVID-19 vaccines require two shots. The first shot starts building protection. A second shot a few weeks later (known as a booster) is needed to create the most protection the vaccine has to offer. Both shots are needed to be fully effective. The Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine only requires one shot.
5. All three vaccines work really well in preventing severe COVID-19 infection, hospitalizations, and death. Talk with your health care provider about which vaccine might be best for you. Also ask questions – your provider should be able to provide you with additional answers and information.
6. Even if you had COVID-19 and recovered, you will benefit from the vaccine. The vaccines were created to provide you with added immunity to protect you even more. They allow you to protect your family, friends, and community and stop the spread of COVID-19.
7. The COVID-19 vaccine does not interact with your DNA and does not change it in any way.

8. The COVID-19 vaccine has no effect on fertility in those receiving the vaccine. Thousands of women have become pregnant and thousands of women have given birth to healthy babies after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. There is evidence that babies, born to mothers who received the COVID-19 vaccine, have some protection from getting infected with COVID-19 as well.
9. The delta COVID-19 variant can cause re-infection in people that have already had a live COVID-19 infection. Those who have been fully vaccinated are protected from the current COVID-19 variants, including the more contagious delta variant.
10. There is an increased risk of developing myocarditis/pericarditis in adolescents and young adults after receiving the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, but the rates are far lower than getting the real live COVID-19 infection and having serious life-threatening consequences from the infection. The vast majority of young people who have developed myocarditis/pericarditis after vaccination are young men who have not had long-term consequences from the heart inflammation. Most recover with minimal treatments.