

Brown County Health & Human Services

Public Health Division

COVID-19 Vaccine

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) – January 27, 2021

How will it be determined who will get the vaccine first?

This will be determined by federal and state officials who have chosen a system that places Wisconsinites who are at the most risk of contracting COVID-19 or are at the greatest risk of suffering a severe or life-threatening reaction to the virus.

Who is included in the currently eligible population?

Current eligible populations consist of Frontline Health Care Personnel (HCP), residents/staff of Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF), Adults 65 and older, as well as Police, Fire, and Corrections Staff.

Who is included in the next eligible group?

The next groups eligible will consist of Essential Workers who are defined by federal and state officials. The following list was shared on January 26th with a tentative start date for vaccine eligibility to begin on March 1st.

- Educators and childcare
- Individuals enrolled in Medicaid long-term care programs
- Some public-facing essential workers like food supply, public transit, utility and communications infrastructure, and 911 operators
- Non-frontline health care essential personnel
- Congregate living facility staff and residents

For a more comprehensive list please visit [COVID-19: Vaccine Phases and Eligibility | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) for details.

Does Brown County Public Health maintain lists of people who need vaccination due to a health condition?

No. Brown County Public Health refers individuals to their health care provider or other community resource for consultation with their circumstances. If you believe you may be eligible please visit [StayHealthyBC \(browncountywi.gov\)](#) for further information.

I've heard the vaccine causes infertility, is that true?

No. There is no data or evidence that the vaccine causes infertility.

If a person tests positive for COVID-19 more than once, are they included in the number of confirmed cases more than once?

No. The number of confirmed cases is the number of people diagnosed with COVID-19 using a diagnostic test (a test to detect the genetic material of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19). If a person tests positive more than once, they are only included as a confirmed case once.



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What Type of side effects are common from the vaccine?

Preliminary data from mRNA COVID-19 vaccine trials indicate that most systemic post-vaccination signs and symptoms are mild to moderate in severity. They often occur within the first three days of vaccination (the day of vaccination and the following two days, with most occurring the day after vaccination). Most symptoms resolve within 1-2 days of onset and are more frequent and severe following the second dose and among younger persons compared to those who are older (>55 years). Below are the frequencies of vaccine side effects observed in the Pfizer and Moderna clinical trials.

- **Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine:**
 - **More common:** pain at the injection site (84.1%) fatigue (62.9%), and headache (55.1%).
 - **Less common:** muscle pain (38.3%), chills (31.9%), joint pain (23.6%), fever (14.2%), injection site swelling (10.5%), injection site redness (9.5%), nausea (1.1%), malaise (0.5%), and lymphadenopathy (0.3%).
- **Moderna COVID-19 vaccine:**
 - **More common:** pain at the injection site (92.0%), fatigue (70.0%), headache (64.7%), and muscle pain (61.5%).
 - **Less common:** chills (45.4%), joint pain (46.4%), nausea/vomiting (23.0%), axillary swelling/tenderness (19.8%), fever (15.5%), injection site swelling (14.7%), and injection site redness (10.0%).

If a person tests Positive for COVID-19 and then dies of an accident (or other causes not related to COVID-19) are they considered a COVID-19 death?

No. If the death certificate indicates that the cause of death was a result of reasons not related to COVID-19 (for example, death related to an accident, overdose, or other non-COVID-related conditions) and COVID-19 is not listed on the death certificate as contributing to death, the person is not included as a COVID-19 death.

I am pregnant or breastfeeding should I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Brown County Public Health recommends you reach out to your health care provider or local community resource center for information regarding your circumstance. At this time, there is no safety data available on the potential risks for pregnant/breastfeeding individuals or fetuses.

I am Immunocompromised should I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Brown County Public Health recommends you reach out to your health care provider or local community resource center for information regarding your circumstance.



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How can I download DHS COVID -19 Data?

COVID-19 data is available for download in several formats from the DHS website. To download spatial and mapped data visit one of the following links:

- [State data](#)
- [County data](#)
- [Census tract data](#)
- [Municipality data](#)
- [School district data](#)
- [Zip code data](#)
- [Disease activity and hospital capacity data](#)
- [Testing sites](#)

The [Data Dictionary](#) (PDF) can also be downloaded. It provides more information about the different elements available to download in the data listed above.

All DHS COVID-19 data is available for download directly from the chart on the page. You can click on the chart and then click "Download" at the bottom of the chart (gray bar).

Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?

No. There is no live virus in the vaccine. The vaccine creates a spike protein that your body will recognize that will cause an immune response if you are exposed to COVID-19 in the future.

Which vaccine should I get?

The current approved vaccines, along with the vaccines with pending approvals, were highly effective in tests. Currently vaccine availability is the deciding factor on which vaccine a person receives.

Can I get one dose of the Pfizer vaccine and one dose of the Moderna vaccine?

No. If you receive the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine, you should receive the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine. The same goes for the Moderna vaccine. Vaccine doses should not be mixed.

How much will the vaccine cost?

Government funds will be used to give the vaccine at no cost to the public. Evaluation, exam, or administrative fees may be subject to insurance, but there will be no out-of-pocket costs for our patients.

How old do you have to be to get the vaccine?

The FDA has authorized the Pfizer vaccine for people age 16 and older and the Moderna vaccine for people age 18 and older.



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Is the Vaccine Safe?

The FDA requires both safety and efficacy for approval. President Biden, and US public health officials support vaccination. Learn more about vaccine safety here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety.html>

Why should I get a vaccine if I can just wear a mask and social distance?

Stopping a pandemic requires using all tools available. Vaccines work with your immune system so your body is ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. Other steps such as wearing a mask and socially distancing, help to reduce your chances of being exposed or spreading the virus to others. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC recommendations will offer the best protection from the virus.

What can I do now to help protect myself from COVID-19 until the vaccine is available to me?

You should continue to cover your nose and mouth with a mask, avoid close contact with people who are feeling ill, stay 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds or large gatherings, and wash your hands frequently.

Can a person who has received COVID-19 vaccine still spread COVID-19?

At this time, we do not know if COVID-19 vaccination will have any effect on preventing transmission, so it is important to continue to follow COVID-19 precautions, including proper hygiene, social distancing and masking, even after receiving the vaccine. Some people can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 but remain asymptomatic. It is important to know whether COVID-19 vaccines can help reduce the number of people that have asymptomatic infection as these people can unknowingly spread the virus to others.

CDC will further assess the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines. A special type of cohort study will try to answer the question about whether vaccinated person can develop asymptomatic infections and spread the virus to others. People who agree to participate will be tested for COVID-19 every week, whether they have symptoms or not. Experts will then compare the proportion of people with infection who were vaccinated to the proportion of people with infection who were not vaccinated. Learn more how CDC and other federal partners are ensuring that vaccines work at the link below.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/effectiveness.html>

Is use of COVID-19 vaccines mandated under EUA?

No, FDA does not mandate vaccination. However, whether a state, local government, or employer, for example, may require or mandate COVID-19 vaccination is a matter of state or other applicable law.

Where can I find more information on COVID-19 and the Vaccine?



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Information on COVID-19 and the current status of the vaccine can be found at the following websites:

[StayHealthyBC \(browncountywi.gov\)](https://www.browncountywi.gov/stayhealthybc)

[Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19/faq)

[COVID-19: Frequently Asked Questions | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](https://www.wisconsin.gov/health-services/covid-19/faq)



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