

**Frequently Asked Questions for COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Ages 6 Months+
(updated 6/28/2022)**

1.) Where can I get the vaccine?

New Hampshire parents and caregivers should first speak with their child's pediatrician. If a provider is not vaccinating children under 5, go to vaccines.nh.gov for a map of New Hampshire locations offering vaccines for younger children or go to vaccines.gov to find a pharmacy near you.

2.) How many doses will my child need?

The Pfizer BioNTech vaccine series for children ages 6 months to 4-years-old is 3 doses. Each dose is 1/10th the amount of the vaccine for adults. The first and second doses are given three weeks apart, followed by the third dose at least 8 weeks after the second dose. Moderna's vaccine series for children 6 months to 5-years-old is 2-doses. Each dose is 25-micrograms given 4 weeks apart. For comparison, the adult dose is two 100-microgram doses.

3.) How effective are the vaccines?

In clinical trials, the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine was 80.4% effective in preventing COVID-19 in children ages 6 months to 4 years old. The Moderna vaccine was 51% effective in preventing COVID-19 in children 6 months to 23 months old and 37% effective in children ages 2 to 5 years old.

4.) Are there side effects?

Children may have soreness at the injection site or some mild side effects from the vaccine, such as irritability, drowsiness, or decreased appetite, which are normal signs that their body is building protection.

5.) Are the vaccines safe for children as young as 6 months old?

Yes. The FDA issued Emergency Use Authorizations after several phases of clinical trials and rigorous testing. Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna's clinical trials did not result in any new safety concerns. The FDA and the CDC recommend the COVID-19 vaccine for very young children based on scientific evidence that shows the benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks.

6.) What is Emergency Use Authorization?

During public health emergencies, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the FDA can authorize a vaccine or medical product for emergency use in order to make it available to the public sooner. The FDA evaluates the data from clinical trials to make sure a vaccine is safe and effective before issuing the EUA to a vaccine manufacturer.

7.) My child already had COVID-19. Does he/she need the vaccine?

Children who have had COVID-19 should receive the COVID-19 vaccine series. Vaccination gives more protection against future infection than a prior infection alone.

8.) Why should I vaccinate my baby or toddler if children have a lower risk of getting sick than adults?

There have been more than 2.4 million (2,458,144) cases of COVID-19 in children under 5 in the United States. Compared to adults, children are at a lower risk of becoming severely ill with COVID-19. However, the [CDC's COVID Data Tracker](#) shows there have been 486 deaths nationwide (as of 6/28/2022) among children in this age group. The CDC recommends vaccinating younger children to help curb community transmission.

9.) Have children in NH died of COVID-19?

Yes. One child younger than 9-years-old from New Hampshire has died as a [result of COVID-19](#).

10.) Where can I find more information?

Talk to your child's pediatrician. You can also go to <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children.html# covid19-vax-recommendations>.