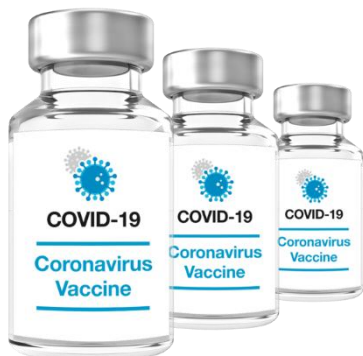# COVID-19 Vaccine

Important information about the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna

Easy read guide
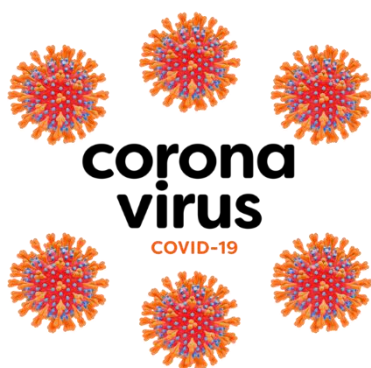
Version 3
7 June 21

About this leaflet

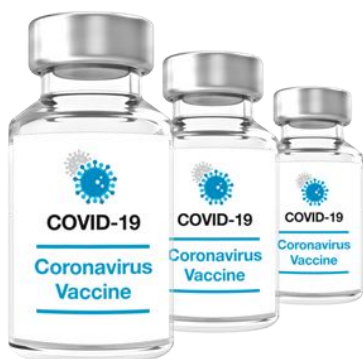This leaflet is about
the COVID-19 Vaccine
Moderna.

This leaflet will tell you what
COVID-19 is.

This leaflet will tell you:
- who should get
  the COVID-19 Vaccine
  and why
- when they will get
  the COVID-19 Vaccine

This leaflet will tell you:
- why it is important to get
  the COVID-19 Vaccine
- who should not get
  the COVID-19 Vaccine
- the side effects of the
  COVID-19 Vaccine
- safety of the COVID-19 Vaccine
- where you can get more information
  on the COVID-19 Vaccine.
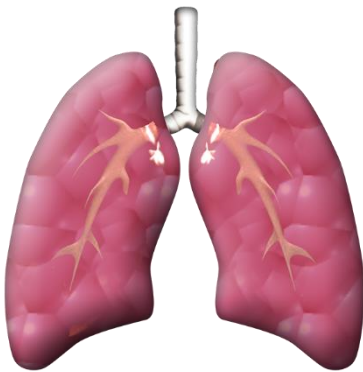
This will help you to make

an informed decision to get
the COVID-19 Vaccine or not.

The choice is yours.

What is COVID-19?

Coronavirus (COVID-19)
is a sickness that has spread around the
world.

COVID-19 affects your lungs.
It is a very serious sickness.

COVID-19 can make it hard
for you to breathe.

The most common symptoms
of COVID-19 are:

- you may feel hot
  with a temperature of
  38 degrees Celsius or more
- you may have a cough
- you may have difficulty breathing
- you may notice a change in your
  taste or your smell.

COVID-19 symptoms are like
flu and cold symptoms.

It can take 2 weeks before you show
symptoms of COVID-19.

If you have any symptoms
you will need to self-isolate in your room.

Your GP or Doctor will arrange for you to have a COVID-19 test.

You can get more information at www.hse.ie/coronavirus

You can telephone
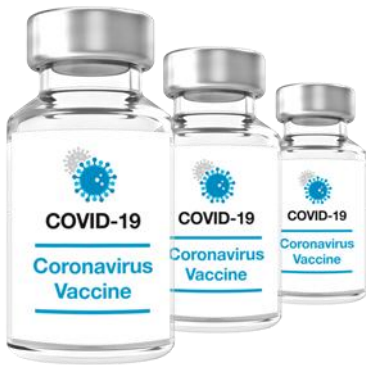the HSE Live helpline
The number is
1850 24 1850.

Who is most at risk of COVID-19?

Older people and people with certain health conditions are at higher risk of getting COVID-19.

Other people can get sick with COVID-19.
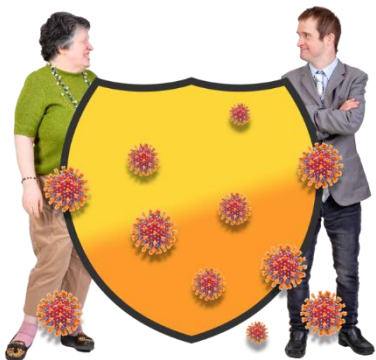
What is the COVID-19 Vaccine?

The COVID-19 Vaccine helps your body to protect you from COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Vaccine
will help protect you from COVID-19
by making antibodies.

Antibodies help your body fight infections
like hepatitis and whooping cough.

Antibodies will help your body
fight COVID-19.
This is called immunity.
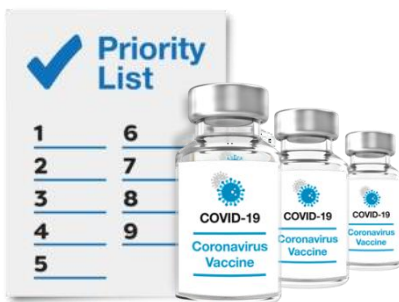
Who should get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

The HSE
The World Health Organization and
The Department of Health think you should
get the COVID -19 Vaccine
when it is offered to you.

People will be asked if they would like to
have the COVID-19 Vaccine as supplies
arrive in Ireland.

People will be notified of their
COVID-19 Vaccine in groups.

You can see the list of groups here:
www.gov.ie/covid19Vaccine

When it is your turn
we will let you know
how to get your COVID-19 Vaccine.

You can read the patient information leaflet
before you get the
COVID-19 Vaccine.

You can find the manufacturer's patient
information leaflet
here: www.hse.ie/covid19VaccinePIL

The Vaccine will not cost you any money.

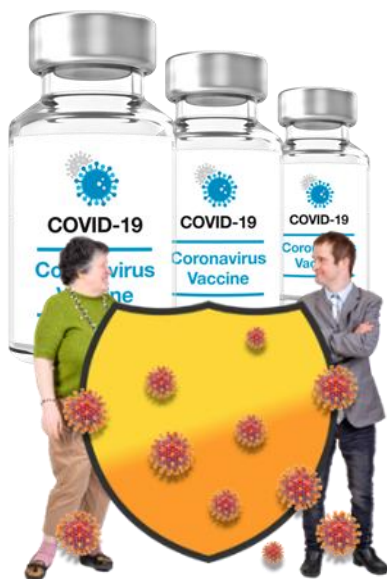# Who will give me my COVID-19 Vaccine?

Vaccinators

The person who will give you your COVID-19 Vaccine is called a vaccinator.

Your vaccinator is the person who gives you your COVID-19 Vaccine.

They are trained by the HSE to give COVID-19 Vaccines.

Why is it important to get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

When you get the COVID-19 Vaccine you are protecting yourself from getting COVID-19.

When you get the COVID-19 Vaccine you could be protecting other people from getting COVID-19.

I already had COVID-19 do I need to get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Yes.
You can get the COVID-19 Vaccine if you have tested positive for COVID-19.

You can get the COVID-19 Vaccine
4 weeks after you first notice symptoms
or
4 weeks after you tested positive for COVID-19.

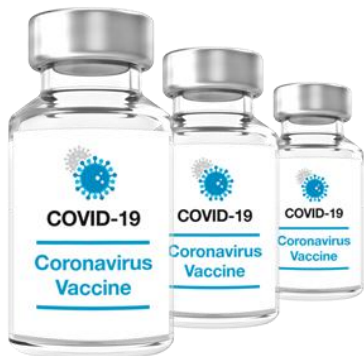# I have COVID-19 now should I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

No.
You should not get
the COVID-19 Vaccine
until you get better from COVID-19.

You can get the COVID-19 Vaccine
4 weeks after you first notice symptoms
or
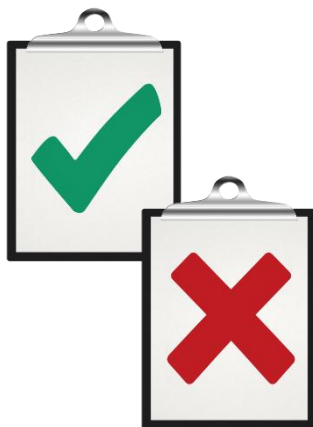4 weeks after you tested positive for COVID-19.

What is the COVID-19 Vaccine called?

The COVID-19 Vaccine that you are being offered is called
COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.
It is made by a company called Moderna.

This Vaccine will help your body make antibodies to fight COVID-19.

How will the COVID-19 Vaccine be given to me?

You will be given a
patient information leaflet
on the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

You will be asked to give your consent if you are happy
to get the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

You can say yes.
You can say no.
The choice is yours.

Your COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
will be given to you by a vaccinator

They are trained by the HSE
to give COVID-19 vaccines.

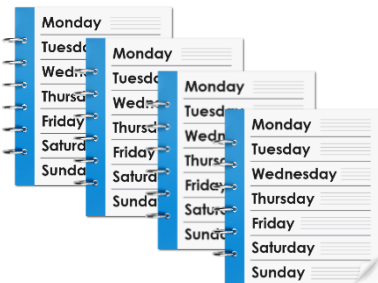Your COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
is given to you as an injection.

The injection is given in your upper arm.
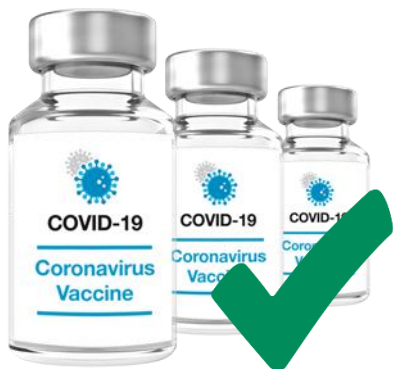
How many doses of COVID-19 Vaccine do I need to get?

×2

You will need 2 doses of
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

The 2nd dose
of your COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
will be given to you
28 days which is 4 weeks after
you get the first dose.

Is the COVID-19 Vaccine safe?

The COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
has been tested
by scientists to see if it is safe.

A scientist is a person who tries to
understand how our world works.

It has been tested on a lot of people.

The COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
has been approved to be used here in
Ireland
by the European Medicines Agency.

You can find out more here:
www.ema.europa.eu

What are the side effects of the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Some people get side effects from
The COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.
Most of these are mild to moderate.
Not everyone will get them.

When more people get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
we will know more about
the side effects.

Some of these side effects are:

- soreness, swelling, redness or itching where you had your injection
- swollen lymph glands under your arm where you had your injection

Knees
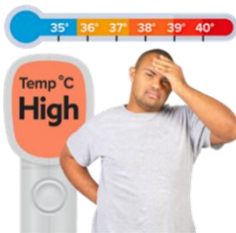
- sore knees or elbows or other bone joints

- feeling sick
- getting sick

- sore head and sore muscles

- feeling tired

- fever or a high temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more.

Some people get other side effects.
These do not happen often
they are:

- swelling in your face
  – this can happen to people
  who have had cosmetic surgery on
  their face

- weakness in the muscles on one side
  of your face
  this is called Bell's palsy

It is very rare for someone to have a
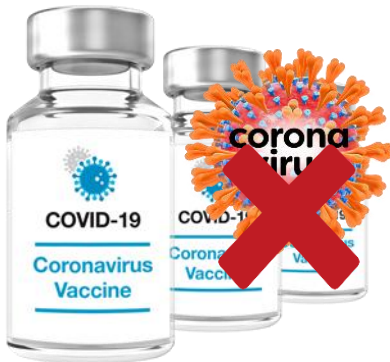severe allergic reaction to
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.
Your vaccinator is trained to treat you if you
have a serious allergic reaction.

What if I get a high temperature after I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

If you get a high temperature after you get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
it normally goes away in 2 days.
If it does not go away
you can tell your Doctor your Nurse
or your Pharmacist.

Can the COVID-19 Vaccine give me COVID-19?

No.
COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
cannot give you COVID-19.

If you get a high temperature
more than 2 days after you get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
you will need to self-isolate.
Your Doctor will arrange for you to have
a COVID-19 test.

Who should not get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

You should not get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
if you have had a bad reaction to any
of the ingredients.
This includes an ingredient called
polyethylene glycol.
You can find out about the ingredients
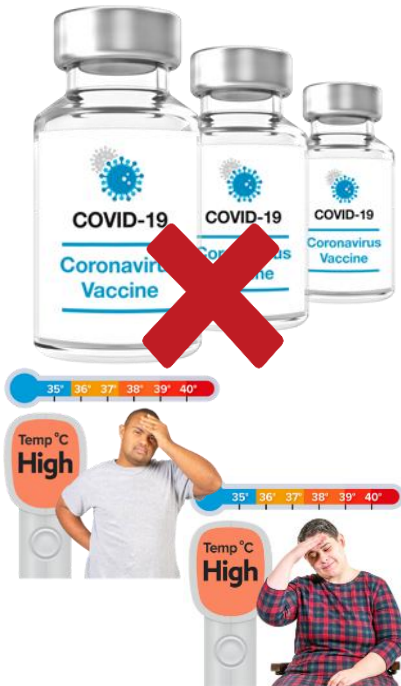here:
www.hse.ie/covid19VaccinePIL

You should talk to your Doctor if you have
had a bad reaction to any injection you
have had or Polysorbate 80
before you get the COVID-19 Vaccine.

You should not get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
if you have had a bad reaction
to the first dose.

The vaccinator who is giving you the
COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
will answer any questions you have.

Should I get the COVID-19 Vaccine if I have a high temperature?

No.
You should not get the
COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
if you have a high temperature.

You can get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
when you are feeling better
and do not have a high temperature.

Is it safe to get the Vaccine for people who are pregnant or breastfeeding?

Scientists have **not** said it is unsafe
for people who are pregnant to get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

If you are pregnant, you should talk to your
Obstetrician or GP or Doctor about getting
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

 People who are breastfeeding can get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

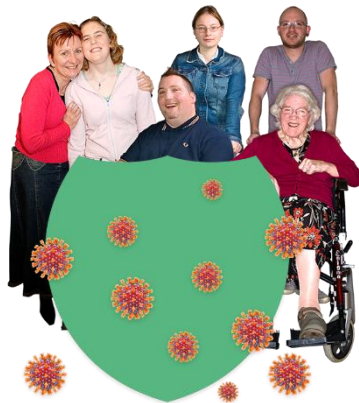# How long does it take for the COVID-19 Vaccine to work?

The COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
will take 14 days to work
after you get your 2 doses
of COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

Most people who get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
will have immunity and be protected from
COVID-19.

You may still get COVID-19
after you get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
but your symptoms may not be as bad.

Does the COVID-19 Vaccine work for everyone?

Scientists have said
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
works for most people who get it.

If I get side effects of the COVID-19 Vaccine who should I tell?

If you get side effects
after you get your
COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna
you can report them to your GP your
Doctor or Nurse.

All side effects can be reported to the
Health Products Regulatory Authority
You can find out more here:
www.hpra.ie/report

Your Doctor or Nurse can make a report for
you.

How long will I be protected from COVID-19 after I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

We do not know how long you will be
protected from COVID-19
after you get the
COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

Scientists are still trying to find this out.

Can I spread COVID-19 to other people after I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

We do not know yet if you can still spread COVID-19 after you get
the COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna.

It is still very important to
- wash your hands
- wear a mask or face covering
- stay 2 metres apart.

How will my personal information be used?

We need to get some personal information from you
to make sure we give the Vaccine to you in the right way.

The HSE have to protect your information and keep it private.
This is called
General Data Protection Regulation.
You can find out more here:
www.hse.ie/eng/gdpr

Where can I get further information about the COVID-19 Vaccine?

You can get further information online at
www.hse.ie/covid19Vaccinematerials

You can read the patient information leaflet here:
www.hse.ie/covid19VaccinePIL

You can telephone
HSE Live helpline.
The number is
1850 24 1850.

This easy to read booklet was proof-read by;

Mr Paul Gallen

Co-collaborator & Ambassador for Intellectual Disability Rights &

Ms Geraldine Rabbitte

Co-collaborator & Ambassador for Intellectual Disability Rights

Version 3

Published by HSE

7 June 2021

This leaflet will be updated as new information becomes available.

For the latest information on this COVID-19 vaccine, go to hse.ie