LakeCounty
Health Department and Community Health Center

COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions

Updated May 26, 2021

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Featured Question

I received my first dose from the Lake County Health Department. Why can't I schedule my second dose yet?

You will receive an email about a week before your second dose is due. Please wait for this email to schedule your second dose. If you have not received the email, check your junk or spam folder. About a week before your second dose is due, you should be able to schedule your appointment in AllVax.

If you need help, please call our AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130. You can also email us at AllVax@lakecountyil.gov.

AllVax Questions

How do I create an account?

You can create an account by registering yourself with an email, full name and your date of birth. Click here to start the process https://allvax.lakecohealth.org/.

How do I delete my AllVax account?

Please email AllVax@lakecountyil.gov if you wish to delete your account.

We discourage deleting your AllVax account for several reasons. Being registered in AllVax gives you a place in line to receive your COVID-19 vaccine. If you delete your account and decide to create a new account later, you move yourself further down in line. The only way to access Lake County Health Department vaccination site appointments is through the AllVax system.

If there is an error in your registration information or your answers to the screening questions change, you can log in to AllVax at any time to update your information. You do not need to create a new account.

If you receive a vaccine from another provider, you do not need to delete or edit your AllVax account. The AllVax system communicates with Illinois vaccine record system, ICARE. Your record in AllVax will be updated to reflect that you have been vaccinated.

If you have been fully vaccinated, we recommend leaving your AllVax account active so that we can notify you if a booster shot is needed in the future.

How do I know that an email came from AllVax?

Communications from the AllVax system comes from allvax@communications-lakecohealth.org. We encourage everyone to add allvax@communications-lakecohealth.org to their safe sender list, this will help to ensure that emails do not go to spam.

I was vaccinated elsewhere, should I delete my AllVax account?

No. The AllVax system communicates with Illinois vaccine record system, ICARE. Your record in AllVax will be updated to reflect that you have been vaccinated.

Registration

Am I able to also register another person?

Yes, you can register other people through your profile. Go to your home page and click "Add another person".

Can I get the COVID-19 vaccination somewhere else?

Yes. Some hospitals, healthcare providers, pharmacies, and businesses are offering COVID-19 vaccinations. If another provider has availability and you are eligible, you can get vaccinated elsewhere. Registering on AllVax does not obligate you to get vaccinated at a Lake County Health Department vaccination clinic.

If you receive a vaccine somewhere else, you do not need to delete your AllVax account. AllVax communicates with the Illinois vaccine record system, and will automatically update your account to reflect that you have received the vaccine.

Can I register on AllVax if I don't live or work in Lake County, Illinois?

The AllVax system is only intended for people who live or work in Lake County, Illinois. Please contact your state or local health department to inquire about getting your vaccine. Here is a list of state and local health departments: https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/healthdirectories/index.html

Can I register someone who doesn't live in my household?

Yes, you can. You do not have to live with or be related to someone to register on their behalf. You will need to have their consent to register them.

Do I have to register to get the vaccine?

No. Walk-in service is now available at Lake County Health Department vaccination sites. Availability is based on vaccine supply and the number of people walking in. Please visit the AllVax Portal for current walk-in hours. https://AllVax.lakecohealth.org

Many partner sites also have walk-ins available. Details are updated regularly on our website, Find a Vaccine. You can call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 for the most current information about Lake County sites or email AllVax@lakecounty.gov.

If you wish to make an appointment, register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org

Do I need to get an authorization number from the Lake County Health Department to register with another company for the vaccine?

No. Please visit www.lakecountyil.gov/vaccine to learn more about other locations offering vaccines.

How do I show a QR code if I don't have access to a computer or smartphone?

If you're unable to show a QR code at the time of your appointment, staff will be able to look up your information.

How do I register if I don't have access to a smartphone or computer?

If you do not have access to sign up online, you can call 847-377-8130 for assistance. If you do not have an email address, you will be notified via phone when it's time to schedule an appointment.

How do I reset my password?

To reset your password, please click on the "forgot your password" on the login screen. You will then get an email with instructions.

If I register, do I have to get the vaccine?

Anyone who registers on the portal who meets the vaccine age requirements can schedule an appointment. You are not obligated to get the vaccine.

If I opt-in, which vaccination partners will receive my registration information?

If you select the option, 'Lake County Health Department can share my information with other healthcare providers to facilitate my vaccination process', we may share your information with Lake County hospitals or partnering healthcare providers who are providing COVID-19 vaccines. They will only use your information to contact you to schedule an appointment. Your information is sent securely to ensure your privacy.

Should I register for the vaccine in multiple places and not just AllVax?

We encourage residents to take the first available appointment to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Go to www.lakecountyil.gov/vaccine to explore your options.

All people ages 12 and older who register on our AllVax Portal and live in Illinois or work in Lake County, Illinois are now automatically able to schedule an appointment. If you receive your vaccine elsewhere, there is no need to remove your account from the AllVax system.

What if I work in a healthcare related field (hospital)?

If you are a resident who works in a healthcare related field, you should reach out to your employer first. Please do this before trying to schedule an appointment on the portal.

What will happen with my information?

Your conversations with the Lake County Health Department are private and secure. Your vaccination information will be sent to the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (ICARE). You can also opt-in to send your registration information to other vaccine providers in Lake County. Your healthcare provider can go to ICARE to request your vaccination information.

Who can register?

Anyone who lives or works in Lake County, Illinois can register. People who work in Lake County but live in another county may register on the portal. Please register using your home address, not your work address.

What do I need to register?

To register you will need:
- Email
- Full name
- Date of birth
- Zip code
- Risk factors

What do I need to register someone else?

You must share your relationship with that person. You must agree that the person gave you consent to register. You will also need the person's:
- Email
- Full name
- Date of birth
- Zip code
- Risk factors

Appointments

Am I able to walk-in for a vaccine?

Yes, walk-in service is now available at Lake County Health Department vaccination sites. Availability is based on vaccine supply and the number of people walking in.

Please visit the AllVax Portal for current walk-in hours. https://AllVax.lakecohealth.org. Many partner sites also have walk-ins available. Details are updated regularly on our website, Find a Vaccine.

You can call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 for the most current information about Lake County sites or email AllVax@lakecounty.gov. If you wish to make an appointment, register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org.

Are pharmacies and hospitals using AllVax to schedule appointments?

Providers are using different systems to schedule appointments. These systems communicate with Illinois vaccine record system, ICARE. Your record in AllVax will be updated to reflect that you have been vaccinated if you get your vaccine elsewhere.

When you register in AllVax, you can select the option 'Lake County Health Department can share my information with other healthcare providers to facilitate my vaccination process.' By checking this box, you consent to let the Lake County Health Department securely send your name, date of birth, email address, phone number, and zip code to our COVID-19 vaccination partners, including local hospitals and healthcare providers, so that they can provide you with an appointment. This will give you access to more locations providing vaccines in Lake County as vaccine supply increases.

Do I need an appointment?

No. Walk-in service is now available at Lake County Health Department vaccination sites. Availability is based on vaccine supply and the number of people walking in.

Please visit the AllVax Portal for current walk-in hours. https://AllVax.lakecohealth.org. Many partner sites also have walk-ins available. Details are updated regularly on our website, Find a Vaccine.

You can call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 for the most current information about Lake County sites or email AllVax@lakecounty.gov. If you wish to make an appointment, register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org.

Do I need insurance to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

No. The vaccine will be provided at no cost to you. You are not required to have health insurance to receive the COVID-19 vaccine from the Lake County Health Department.

How do I cancel my appointment?

You can cancel by logging into your portal. Once logged in, click on "edit" next to your appointment time.

How do I reschedule an appointment?

Once you have logged into the portal, click on "cancel" next to your appointment time. Then select "Schedule a vaccine" to choose a new appointment.

How does scheduling work?

On the AllVax portal, select if you'd like to register yourself or someone else. Then you can enter contact information and answer some risk factor screening questions

All people ages 12 and older who register on our AllVax Portal and live in Illinois or work in Lake County, Illinois are now automatically able to schedule an appointment. If you meet the requirements, you can click the blue 'Schedule' button after you register.

Register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org/.

How will I know when I can schedule an appointment?

It's easier than ever to schedule an appointment! Register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org/.

All people ages 12 and older who register on our AllVax Portal and live in Illinois or work in Lake County, Illinois are now automatically able to schedule an appointment. If you meet the requirements, you can click the blue 'Schedule' button after you register.

If you are not yet eligible, you will receive an email later when it is time to schedule an appointment.

What do I do if I received a scheduling email for my second dose, but there are no available appointments?

Please check the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org daily for newly added appointments. You will not lose eligibility as you're guaranteed a second dose appointment.

If you need help, please call our AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130. You can also email us at AllVax@lakecountyil.gov

What do I need to bring with me?

You will need to bring a form of identification, your appointment confirmation, and wear a mask. You will need to provide a signature to consent to the vaccine.

Children ages 12 to 17 years old must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

When can I get a COVID-19 vaccine?

All people ages 12 and older who register on our AllVax Portal and live in Illinois or work in Lake County, Illinois are now automatically able to schedule an appointment.

Register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org/.

Where can I get the vaccine?

Many locations in Lake County have COVID-19 vaccines available by appointment and walk-ins. Details are updated regularly on our website, Find a Vaccine.

If you need any assistance, call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 or email them at AllVax@lakecounty.gov.

Will I receive a reminder about my appointment?

You will receive an email 72 hours and 24 hours before your appointment. You can cancel and reschedule by logging into your portal. Once logged in, click on "edit" next to your appointment time.

Vaccination Phases

I'm currently eligible, why haven't I received an email to schedule my vaccine?

All people ages 12 and older who register on our AllVax Portal and live in Illinois or work in Lake County, Illinois are now automatically able to schedule an appointment. Please check your account to make sure you have added your date of birth correctly, and have added a home or work zip code.

If you are eligible, you can login to the AllVax Portal and should see a blue 'Schedule' button next to your name. If you need any assistance, call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 or email them at AllVax@lakecounty.gov.

What if I work in a healthcare related field?

If you are a resident who works in a healthcare related field, you should reach out to your employer first. Please do this before trying to schedule an appointment on the AllVax Portal (https://allvax.lakecohealth.org).

Where are you in the vaccination plan?

It's easier than ever to get the COVID-19 vaccine. All people ages 12 and older who register on our AllVax Portal and live in Illinois or work in Lake County, Illinois are now automatically able to schedule an appointment. Register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org.

Many sites throughout Lake County have walk-in availability. Details are updated regularly on our website, Find a Vaccine.

If you need any assistance, call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 or email them at AllVax@lakecounty.gov.

Second Dose

How long do I need to wait to get my second vaccine after getting my first dose?

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines require two doses. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine requires only one dose. You will receive an information sheet at your first appointment. This sheet will tell you if and when you need to get a second dose.

If I received my first dose elsewhere (another provider, state, etc.) can I get my second dose through the Lake County Health Department?

Yes. People who have received a first dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines at another location may schedule an appointment for their second dose at a Lake County vaccination site through the AllVax portal.

It is important to get both doses of these vaccines because that is what was shown to be effective during clinical trials.

Register on the AllVax Portal at https://allvax.lakecohealth.org/. If you need help, please call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130. You may also email us at AllVax@lakecountyil.gov.

I received my first dose from the Lake County Health Department. Why can't I schedule my second dose yet?

You will receive an email about a week before your second dose is due. Please wait for this email to schedule your second dose. If you have not received the email, check your junk or spam folder.

About a week before your second dose is due, you should be able to schedule your appointment in AllVax.

If you need help, please call our AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130. You can also email us at AllVax@lakecountyil.gov.

Will the vaccine lose its effectiveness if I don't get the second dose exactly on the recommended date?

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines require two doses to reach their full efficacy. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine requires only one dose. According to the CDC, if you receive a two dose vaccine, you should get your second shot as close to the recommended interval as possible. The CDC has recommended you get the second dose no longer than 6 weeks after your first dose. You should not get the second dose earlier than the recommended interval.

For Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, schedule the second dose at least 21 days after your first dose.

For Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, schedule the second dose at least 28 days after your first dose. The effectiveness of the vaccine does not decrease if the second dose is not received on the recommended date. The goal is to get people fully protected sooner, but to not worry if you do not get the second dose on the earliest day it is due.

Specific Populations/Health Conditions

When can children ages 12-15 get vaccinated?

As of May 12, 2021, children ages 12 to 15 years old can now receive the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

Minors under 18 years old must have a parent or legal guardian present to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. A signed consent form will not be accepted.

Which vaccine can a person under age 18 receive?
The only COVID-19 vaccine that can be used for children under age 18 is the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

When a minor who is registered in the AllVax portal goes to schedule an appointment, the system will only show locations that offer the Pfizer vaccine.

Both the AllVax registration process and questions asked at vaccination sites include the person's age. This helps to ensure the right vaccine is provided.

Do individuals under 18 need a parent present to get the vaccine?
Yes, minors under 18 years old must have a parent or legal guardian present to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. A signed consent form will not be accepted.

If I am pregnant or a nursing mother, should I get the vaccine?
At this time, there is no data from clinical trials for pregnant women or nursing mothers. Please consult your doctor for advice.

What if I have a pre-existing condition?
Adults of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19. Severe illness from COVID-19 is defined as hospitalization, admission to the ICU, intubation or mechanical ventilation, or death.

For more information on what conditions are considered at increased risk for severe illness visit the CDC page on People with Certain Medical Conditions: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical -conditions.html.

What if my health condition is not listed (in AllVax or the CDC)?
The list of high-risk conditions on the AllVax Portal is based on IDPH guidelines for earlier vaccination phases. Because all people ages 12 and older are now eligible to get the vaccine, Lake County is no longer updating this list.

Why are only certain conditions listed in the AllVax system?

The list of high-risk conditions on the AllVax Portal is based on IDPH guidelines for earlier vaccination phases. Because all people ages 12 and older are now eligible to get the vaccine, Lake County is no longer updating this list.

Safety

Does the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend getting a vaccine?

Yes. You can learn more about the CDC recommendations here.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/vaccine-benefits.html

How safe is the COVID-19 vaccine?

The COVID-19 vaccines are tested in large clinical trials to make sure they meet safety standards. The Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines passed three phases of clinical trials. These phases included months of data collection and thousands of participants. All routine safety standards must be met to ensure that any authorized or approved vaccine is as safe as possible. A safety board approved every study, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) carefully reviewed the data from every phase of every vaccine trial. Data will continue to be collected two years after a vaccine is first administered to ensure long-term safety.

You can learn about the myths and misconceptions about COVID-19 vaccinations on the CDC's website:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/vaccine-myths.html.

Read the results from the trials on the FDA's website:

https://www.fda.gov/drugs/coronavirus-covid-19-drugs/coronavirus-treatment-acceleration-program-ctap.

What if I am getting another vaccine (Shingles, flu etc). Can I still get a COVID vaccine?

COVID-19 vaccines should be spaced at least 14 days apart from other vaccinations. Please do not schedule an appointment within 14 days of receiving another vaccine. Talk with your healthcare provider for more information.

Adverse Reactions

What should I do if I have a reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine?

If you are having a severe reaction, call 9-1-1 or your healthcare provider. If you have any reaction to the vaccine, please share it through V-SAFE. This is the CDC's smartphone tool that checks in on you after your COVID-19 vaccination. If you are having a reaction and do not have a smartphone, please call (847) 377-8130 to inform the Lake County Health Department. Please do not use this number to report an emergency.

Most people who get a COVID-19 vaccine will have mild side effects. This is more likely after the second dose. People in the vaccine trials reported mild or moderate side effects, mostly pain at the injection site, fatigue, and aching muscles and joints for a day or two.

Most people will not have "severe" side effects, defined as those that prevent daily activity. Examples of a "severe" side effect would be:
- A fever between 102°F to 106°F.
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain
- Joint pain
- Headache

If a person is going to have a bad reaction to a vaccine, it is likely to occur in the first six weeks after vaccination, according to medical experts. Experts still don't know the long-term effects of the vaccines. Researchers continue to monitor trial participants in the real world for years after the trial.

What are the risks of getting the COVID-19 vaccine?

We understand concerns about potential side effects. However, the chances of having a severe side effect is less than 0.5%. You may experience some mild side effects after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The side effects are normal signs that your immune system is building protection against the virus. These symptoms usually go away on their own within a few days.

These include:

- Soreness, redness, or warmth in the arm where you were vaccinated.
- Headache.
- Fever.
- Fatigue.
- Body Aches.

Most people will not have "severe" side effects, defined as those that prevent daily activity. Examples of a "severe" side effect would be:

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If a person is going to have a bad reaction to a vaccine, it is likely to occur in the first six weeks after vaccination, according to medical experts. Experts still don't know the long-term effects of the vaccines. Researchers continue to monitor trial participants in the real world for years after the trial.

COVID-19 vaccines are tested in large clinical trials to make sure they meet safety standards. Both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines passed three phases of clinical trials. These phases included months of data collection and thousands of participants. All routine safety standards must be met to ensure that any authorized or approved vaccine is as safe as possible.

You can learn about the myths and misconceptions about COVID-19 vaccinations on the CDC's website - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/about-vaccines/vaccine-myths.html

General Vaccine Questions

Which vaccine will I receive?

The vaccine you receive is based on CDC guidance and availability. The right vaccine is the first vaccine that is made available to you except in the case of children ages 12 to 17 years old. The only COVID-19 vaccine that can be used for children under age 18 is the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. It requires two doses, given three weeks apart.

Lake County vaccination sites that provide Pfizer or Moderna vaccine do not offer choice of vaccine brand for first doses in adults.

Johnson & Johnson vaccine is available at some locations by request. Community members seeking the Johnson & Johnson vaccine can call the AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 for appointment availability.

If receiving a two-dose vaccine, it is recommended that you get the same brand of vaccine for both doses. AllVax will help track which vaccine you get so you receive the correct second dose. All authorized vaccines have undergone clinical trials to ensure that they are safe and effective.

To learn more, visit the CDC's website:
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html

Can an exception be made so that I (or my family member) can get vaccinated sooner?

Right now, the COVID-19 vaccines are only authorized for use in certain age groups. The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is authorized for ages 12 and older, and the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are authorized for ages 18 and older. Only those ages 16 and older can be vaccinated at this time.

We cannot make exceptions to allow vaccinations of people who do not meet the age requirement. In the near future, vaccines may be authorized for younger groups.

I already had COVID-19 and recovered. Do I still need to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes. Right now it's unknown how long immunity for COVID-19 lasts after you have been sick. We do know that immunity from having the virus decreases over time, especially for mild cases. Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself from getting COVID-19 again.

How many shots will be needed?

Both the Pfizer-BioNtech and Moderna vaccines require two doses. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine only requires one dose. You will receive information at your vaccine appointment if a second dose is needed. Learn more on the CDC's website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html

How can I share my vaccination record?

Your healthcare provider can get your vaccination record from the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (ICARE). https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/immunization/icare

How many vaccines have been administered in Lake County?

Please visit the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) website to see the latest vaccine data: http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccinedata?county=Lake

Is the COVID-19 vaccine effective?

All three vaccines authorized in the United States have been studied in clinical trials and found to be safe and extremely effective. The long-term effectiveness of the vaccine is not yet known. For more information, visit the CDC's website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/effectiveness.html

Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe for my child?

Vaccine safety is a top priority. Before a vaccine is authorized for any age group, data from clinical trials is reviewed to assure the vaccine is safe and effective.

The COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are safe for the ages included in the authorization. The Pfizer vaccine is authorized for use in people 12 and older, and the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are authorized for use in people 18 and older.

Clinical trials are currently underway to see if COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective for children under 12 years of age.

Is the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine available in Lake County?

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is available at some locations upon request. Community members seeking the Johnson & Johnson vaccine can call our AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 for appointment availability.

How does the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen)vaccine differ from other vaccines?

The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine is an adenovirus vaccine. This type of technology is used in other vaccines, such as the Ebola vaccine.

- The vaccine has an inactivated virus to deliver important instructions (in the form of a gene) to your cells. The cells then produce a coronavirus antigen called the spike protein. This triggers the body to produce antibodies and an immune response, training the immune system to fight off an infection if the body encounters the coronavirus.
- An adenovirus is a type of virus that causes the common cold, but this vaccine cannot give you a cold.
- The vaccine cannot cause disease. It does not contain a live virus and cannot give you COVID-19.

Unlike the other available vaccines, the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine is a single dose vaccine that can be stored in refrigeration temperatures for 3 months and frozen for 2 years.

The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine has been shown to be safe and effective in preventing severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death.

Learn more at
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines/janssen.html

Can I request the Johnson & Johnson vaccine if I have specific allergies?

No. The vaccine you receive is based on CDC guidance and availability. You cannot make a request for a specific type of vaccine. If you are unsure if you should get the COVID-19 vaccine due to allergies, please consult your healthcare provider before scheduling an appointment.

Who will get the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine in Lake County?

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is authorized for use in persons age 18 years old and older. People who have a history of allergic reactions to an ingredient in the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine should not get the vaccine.

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is available at some locations upon request. Community members seeking the Johnson & Johnson vaccine can call our AllVax support team at (847) 377-8130 for appointment availability.

Isn't it better to get natural immunity rather than immunity from vaccines?

Both COVID-19 and the vaccine are new. We don't know how long protection lasts for those who get infected or those who are vaccinated. What we do know is that COVID-19 has caused serious illness and death in many people. If you get COVID-19, you also risk giving it to loved ones who may get sick. Getting the COVID-19 vaccine helps protect you and those you love.

I am homebound/my family member is homebound, and cannot leave for a vaccine. Can someone come to my home?

At this time, we advise you to speak with your home health care provider about whether vaccines may be available from your provider. We currently are not able to vaccinate individuals in their homes. We encourage household members to register in AllVax so that they can be protected and protect their homebound loved one.

Should I continue to wear a mask and social distance after getting vaccinated?

After you have been fully vaccinated, it is still important to exercise caution. To learn more about where and when to wear a mask, social distance, and other ways to keep

yourself and our community safe, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) webpage, When You've Been Fully Vaccinated.

What are the benefits of getting the COVID-19 vaccine?

The COVID-19 vaccination will help keep you from getting COVID-19. Getting vaccinated may also protect people around you. This is especially helpful for people who are at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. COVID-19 can have serious, life-threatening complications. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you. And if you get sick, you could spread the disease to friends, family, and others around you. COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you by creating an antibody response. This response will be created without having to get sick. COVID-19 vaccination is an important tool to help end the pandemic. Wearing masks and social distancing help reduce your chance of being exposed to the virus or spreading it to others. However, these measures are not enough. Vaccines will work with your immune system so it will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed.

What are the risks of not getting the vaccine?

If you don't get the vaccine, you will not be protected from getting COVID-19. If you become infected, you could spread the virus to others.

Is AllVax available in languages other than English?

Yes, AllVax is available in Spanish. Language line services are available for other languages when you call (847) 377-8130.

Is the Lake County Health Department tracking demographics of those they are vaccinating?

The Lake County Health Department is tracking demographics including age, sex, zip code, occupation, living situation, and underlying health conditions with AllVax registration. Additional demographics, such as race and ethnicity, are requested at the time of a vaccination appointment. Responses to most demographic questions are optional.

Was the COVID-19 vaccine developed too quickly to be safe?

No. The COVID-19 vaccine was able to be developed so quickly because it did not face the typical barriers that usually slow things down. These barriers include securing funding, identifying the structure of the virus, recruiting participants for the trials, developing the vaccine technology (mRNA and adenovirus vaccines have already been

widely used), delays in manufacturing, and waiting for FDA review and authorization. The COVID-19 vaccine development had great levels of resources, scientists, and participants. Scientists and researchers across the world also collaborated and shared information and resources to make this possible.

If I don't have any side effects, does it mean that the vaccine isn't working?

Side effects vary for each individual. While it is normal to experience side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine, it is also common that individuals report mild or no side effects. This does not mean that the vaccine is not working or as effective.

What can I do once I have been vaccinated.

After you have been fully vaccinated, it is still important to exercise caution. To learn more about where and when to wear a mask, social distance, and other ways to keep yourself and our community safe, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) webpage, When You've Been Fully Vaccinated.

Volunteer

I'd like to volunteer. What do I do?

Please visit our Lake County Medical Reserve Corps page at https://www.lakecountyil.gov/2305/Lake-County-Medical-Reserve-Corps. This page includes information on volunteer roles available and an online application. If you have questions or need assistance, you may email HLHealthEM@lakecountyil.gov or call (847) 377-8186.