

What are the side effects of COVID-19 vaccines?

The COVID-19 vaccine will help protect you from getting COVID-19. After you receive the vaccine, you may have some side effects. These are normal and mean that your body is building protection against COVID-19.

Any side effects that you have will likely be mild, and they should go away after a few days.

If the type of vaccine you received requires you to get two doses, you may have more intense side effects after your second dose than after your first dose. This is normal and means that your body is building protection against COVID-19.

After you get the vaccine, you may have some pain or swelling in the arm where you got the shot.

If you have pain or discomfort in the arm where you got the vaccine, you can apply a cool, wet washcloth over the area. You may also want to exercise and move your arm around a bit.

Other side effects that you may have are chills, tiredness, a headache, or a fever.

If you have a fever, make sure you drink plenty of fluids, and wear light, loose fitting clothing.

If your side effects bother you, talk to your health care provider about taking an over-the-counter pain medicine, such as ibuprofen, acetaminophen, aspirin, or antihistamines.

For most people, these side effects will go away on their own. However, you should contact your health care provider if the redness or tenderness in your arm where you got the vaccine increases after 24 hours.

You should also call your health care provider if your side effects do not go away after a few days.

It's important to remember that if you think you might be having a severe allergic reaction after receiving the vaccine, you should call 911 and seek medical care immediately.

Let's review what we just discussed and go over some of the key points:

- After you receive the COVID-19 vaccine, you may have some side effects.
- These side effects are normal, and they will likely be mild and go away after a few days.
- If your side effects bother you, talk to your health care provider about taking an over-the-counter pain medicine.
- Contact your health care provider if your side effects do not go away after a few days.