

# COVID-19 Vaccines Available for Infants & Young Children!

COVID-19 vaccines can provide our youngest children a valuable layer of protection against COVID-19.

## SHOULD I VACCINATE MY CHILD?

**YES!** COVID-19 can lead to hospitalization, death, and severe and long-term outcomes in children—even in children under the age of 5.

## THE FACTS:

- During the Omicron wave, the hospitalization rate was the **highest for children under 5** compared to older children and adolescents.
- COVID-19 has caused 442 deaths in children aged 0-4 years, and is the **5th leading cause of death** for children this age.
- COVID-19 has led to **long COVID** in children, and over 8,500 cases of MIS-C (multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children).

	Who can get it?	How many doses?	Is it effective?	Possible side effects?
<b>Moderna</b>	6 months – 5 years	2 doses (second dose 1 month later)	Both vaccines were shown to produce a similar antibody response to existing vaccines for other age groups, which are already known to be effective — especially against severe illness.	Pain, redness and swelling at injection site, fever, headache, fatigue, myalgia, nausea/vomiting, chills.  For infants and toddlers: irritability, crying, sleepiness, loss of appetite. Most fever occurred within 2 days of vaccination and resolved within 1 day.
<b>Pfizer</b>	6 months – 4 years	3 doses (second dose 3 weeks later, third dose 8 weeks after that)		Redness, swelling and pain at injection site, fever (low incidence), fatigue, headache, chills, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle pain, joint pain.

A COVID-19 vaccine is now available for everyone 6 months and older!  
Visit [vax.rchd.com](https://vax.rchd.com) to schedule your appointment today.

# Comparing Moderna and Pfizer

## Moderna

**Who can get it?** Anyone! The vaccine has newly been approved for 6mo-5yr and 6-17yrs

**What is it?** A 2 dose primary series. No booster or 3rd dose recommendations at this time, but 3rd doses are being tested and may be recommended in the future.

**How long does it take?** 2 doses, 1 month apart

**How effective is it?** It was shown to produce similar responses to existing vaccines for other age groups, which are especially effective against severe illness. Estimates place protection from infection at 31-51% after completing 2 doses, which would likely improve if a booster dose is recommended.

**Side effects?** Pain, redness and swelling at injection site, fever, headache, fatigue, myalgia, nausea/vomiting, chills. For infants and toddlers: irritability, crying, sleepiness, loss of appetite. Most fever occurred within 2 days and resolved within 1 day.

**Dosage differs depending on age:**

6 months-5 years: 25 µg of mRNA

6-11 years: 50 µg of mRNA

12-17 years: 100 µg of mRNA

**Serious adverse events?** 1 case of febrile seizure attributed to the vaccine; No cases of myocarditis or pericarditis.

## Pfizer 6mo+

**Who can get it?** Children 6mo+ (It was already available for ages 5 and up)

**What is it?** A 3 dose primary series.

**How long does it take?** First 2 doses administered 3 weeks apart, followed by a 3rd dose at least 8 weeks after the 2nd dose (In total, it takes 11wks, or about 3months to complete)

**How effective is it?** It was shown to produce a similar antibody response to existing vaccines for other age groups, which are already known to be effective, especially against severe illness. Vaccine efficacy in children under 5 was 80.3% after the 3rd dose, but there is still a low amount of data.

**Side effects?** Redness, swelling and pain at injection site, fever (low incidence), fatigue, headache, chills, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle pain, joint pain

**Dosage:** 3 µg

**Serious adverse events?** None attributed to the vaccine. No cases of myocarditis or pericarditis.