

# Getting a Vaccine: What to Expect

## Preparation

1. Learn about the [COVID-19 vaccines](#) or ask someone to help you find the information.
2. Contact your doctor if you have any questions about the COVID-19 vaccine.
3. Your [local county board of developmental disabilities](#) will help you know when it is your turn to receive the vaccination.
4. It takes time to make enough vaccines for everybody and to schedule your appointment. You may not receive your COVID-19 right away. Be patient.
5. When it is your turn, you can choose to receive the vaccine or not.
6. Complete a What to Know about Me form before going to your appointment.
7. Read or have someone read you a [social story](#) about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.
8. The local health department, hospital, or pharmacy will vaccinate you if you choose to get the COVID-19 vaccine.



## Appointment

1. You may receive the COVID-19 vaccine in a clinic, a hospital, or a drive-thru.
2. The vaccine will be given to you as a shot in the arm.
3. You may need to wait after getting the vaccine to make sure you do not have a bad reaction.
4. It is normal for people to have side-effects from the vaccine. You may have a sore arm, a headache, or feel tired.



## Follow Up

1. You will need to get a second shot for most COVID-19 vaccines.
2. After you receive the vaccine, you will get a card that tells you when to come back for your second shot.
3. You will still need to wear a mask and practice social distancing until more and more people receive the vaccine.



For other questions about the COVID-19 vaccine, call the Ohio Department of Health's call center at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634) or visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)