



COVID-19

After Vaccination

When am I considered fully vaccinated?

This varies depending which vaccine you receive. If you are vaccinated with the two-dose Moderna vaccine, you are considered fully vaccinated two weeks (14 days) after your second and final dose. If you received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, you are considered fully vaccinated one week (7 days) after your second dose. Finally, if you received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you are considered fully vaccinated 28 days after receiving it.

What can I change after I'm fully vaccinated?

This depends on the vaccination status of the people you are around. While we know each of the vaccines are very effective at preventing illness from COVID-19, we don't know if they prevent a vaccinated person from spreading the virus to an unvaccinated person. Because of this, it is important to continue wearing a face mask in public spaces, physically distancing from those who don't live in your home, limiting social gatherings, and staying home when you are sick until enough people are vaccinated to achieve herd immunity. There is good news, however. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released new guidance that individuals who are fully vaccinated are safe to spend time indoors with up to six other fully vaccinated individuals without wearing masks or physically distancing.

How many people have to be vaccinated for things to return to normal?

This is difficult to answer. We don't yet know how effective current vaccines will be against future variants of the virus. It is possible that preventive measures will continue to be needed at varying degrees for the foreseeable future. Our best chance to outpace variants of the virus is to achieve widespread vaccination and herd immunity around the world as quickly as possible.

Will I have to get the COVID-19 vaccine every year?

Much like the flu vaccine, it is possible that the COVID-19 vaccine will need to be taken regularly to prevent illness. Research is still being done to learn more about how long our immunity to the virus lasts after vaccination.



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For more information, visit: COVID-19.MCHealthy.net