



COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs (3 pages)

Information in this document is current as of 1.12.2020. It will be updated as new information becomes available.

Has a COVID-19 vaccine been approved?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccines developed by Pfizer and Moderna have received emergency use approval from the FDA. Vaccines from other companies may be approved in the coming weeks and months. Currently, the vaccines that have been approved are for age 16 and up (Pfizer) or age 18 and up (Moderna).

When will a COVID-19 vaccine be available?

Vaccine has been shipped to the state Department of Health for distribution to local governments, health facilities and pharmacies. Family Care Network is enrolled in the state distribution program to receive the Moderna vaccine.

As of January 12, 2021, FCN does not have COVID-19 vaccine for patients. The current supply of COVID-19 vaccine is still very limited, but it is expected to become more available in the coming weeks and months. FCN received one small shipment of Moderna vaccine for our front line employees and providers only, in late December. We do not currently know how much or when FCN will receive additional COVID-19 vaccine for eligible patient groups, but we are hopeful that it will arrive soon.

Which COVID-19 vaccine will be offered at Family Care Network?

Family Care Network is enrolled with the state vaccine distribution program to receive the [Moderna](#) vaccine. This vaccine requires two doses, 28 days apart.

Are COVID-19 vaccines safe?

We take our role in evaluating vaccine safety for our patients very seriously. Our physician leadership team has reviewed the clinical trial data and independent evaluations that are available on COVID-19 vaccines. They are highly confident they will be safe and effective.

We will continue to monitor and incorporate the information released by trusted health agencies in making our recommendation to patients. Like all vaccines, some people may be advised against getting the COVID-19 vaccine based on their personal health history. This does not mean that the vaccine is not safe. More information can be found by visiting the websites listed at the end of this document.

How many shots will I need?

The vaccines currently approved require two doses, several weeks apart. Family Care Network will offer the Moderna vaccine, which requires two doses, 28 days apart.

What are the side effects?

The most common side effects of COVID-19 vaccine are similar to some routine vaccines, including a sore arm, tiredness, headache, fever or chills and muscle pain. Most side effects occur within two days of getting the vaccine and last about a day.

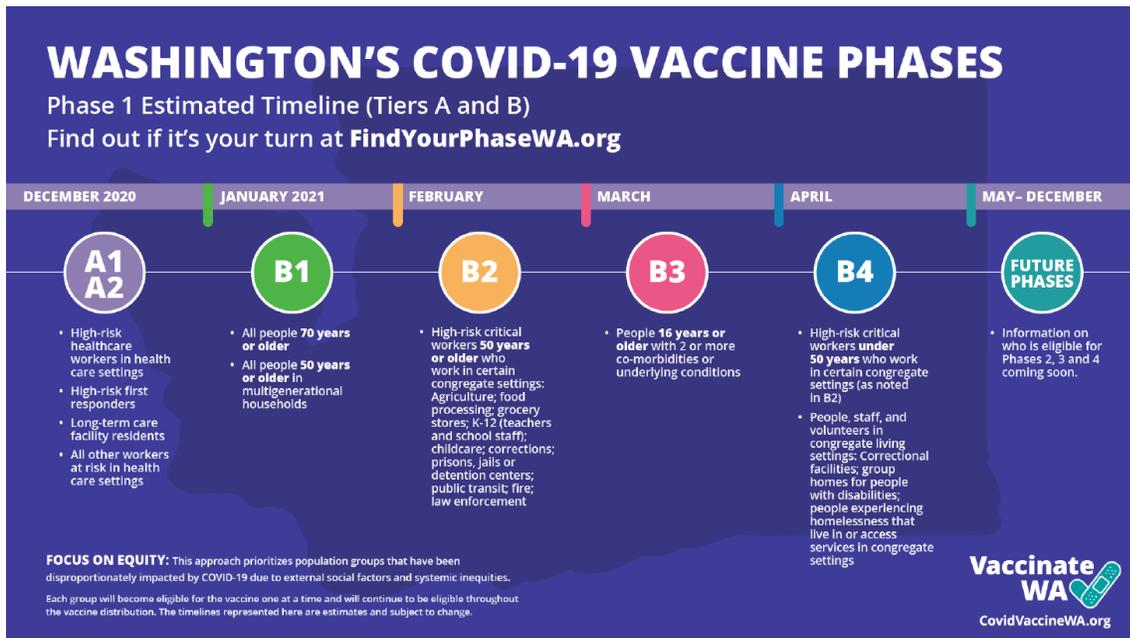
To help track side effects, the CDC will offer **v-safe**, a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Through v-safe, you can quickly tell the CDC if you have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Depending on your answers, someone from CDC may call to check on you and get more information. And v-safe will remind you to get your second COVID-19 vaccine dose if you need one. Participation in v-safe is optional. To register, go to v-safe.cdc.gov.

Who will get the COVID-19 vaccine first?

COVID-19 vaccine will initially be prioritized for health care workers and long-term care facilities. As more vaccine becomes available, it will be more broadly available in the community. We will follow state and local recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine prioritization.

On January 6, Washington State released a [phased vaccination plan](#), shown below.

PLEASE NOTE: As of 1.12.2021, FCN has not received vaccine to begin inoculating patients in phase A1 or A2. The chart below indicates possible timelines, if vaccine is available.



Washington State DOH will release an online tool on January 18, called PhaseFinder, that allows people to answer questions to assess their COVID-19 vaccine eligibility. A test site is currently available: [PhaseFinder](#)

How do I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

When the COVID-19 vaccine becomes more broadly available, information on where to get vaccinated will be released through state and local health departments, health facilities, and pharmacies.

As of January 12, 2021, FCN does not currently have COVID-19 vaccine for patients. We are actively working on plans that will allow us to safely and efficiently vaccinate our patients when it becomes

available. We will communicate this information through all the methods we normally use, such as our website, email, patient portal, phone, etc.

When vaccine becomes available, all vaccinations will be *by appointment only*, separate from a regular office visit. This is to ensure we have adequate vaccine supply for second doses. We will offer vaccine appointments in our clinics and at a central, drive-through vaccination site in Bellingham. We will let patients know how to make an appointment as soon as we have vaccine available.

Can I make a future appointment to get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Unfortunately, we don't know when or how much Moderna COVID-19 vaccine we will receive. We are not keeping wait lists, and we are not able to schedule appointments for COVID-19 vaccine until we have more information.

How much will a COVID-19 vaccine cost?

COVID-19 vaccine will be available at no cost to individuals. Clinicians giving the vaccine may charge an administration fee, which is billed to public or private insurance and reimbursed according to the terms of the plan. Uninsured patients may have the administration fee covered by the HRSA COVID-19 Provider Relief Fund, or private pay policies may apply.

IMPORTANT: BE AWARE OF SCAMS

Phone calls, texts or emails promising early access to a COVID-19 vaccine, the option to purchase the vaccine online or through the mail, or asking for personal information should not be trusted. From the FTC:

“If you get a call, text, email — or even someone knocking on your door — claiming they can get you early access to the vaccine, STOP. That’s a scam. Don’t pay for a promise of vaccine access or share personal information. Instead, report it to the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identity-theft).”

Vaccine will only be made available through legitimate sources such as government health departments, health care facilities, pharmacies, etc.

For additional information on COVID-19 vaccine, we recommend the following:

- [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus): www.cdc.gov/coronavirus
- Washington State [Department of Health website](https://www.wa.gov/health): www.coronavirus.wa.gov
- Washington State COVID-19 Assistance Hotline: 1-800-525-0127

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