

5 Things to Know Before Making Vaccine Decisions

Infectious diseases can cause severe and sometimes life-threatening illness. Staying up to date with recommended vaccines is one of the best ways to help protect yourself. Here are five things to know about vaccines.

Vaccines Save Lives

1

For decades, vaccines have protected people from the serious effects of disease, reduced hospital stays, and saved millions of lives worldwide.¹

Vaccines Are Safe

2

Before a vaccine becomes available, it is researched, tested, and reviewed by scientific and regulatory experts. Even after vaccines are approved, experts continue to monitor them to ensure vaccine safety.²

Recommendations Help You Understand Which Vaccines You Need

Medical and public health experts develop vaccine recommendations to help individuals, families, and healthcare providers make decisions about vaccines. Groups that develop recommendations include:

- CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)
- Leading medical societies, such as American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists (ACOG) and Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)

3

Vaccines Are Available in Your Community

Vaccines are available in many healthcare and community settings, including healthcare provider offices, pharmacies, community health centers, and local and state health departments.

Use CVEEP's Vaccine Locator to find a vaccination location near you.

4

Recommended Vaccines Are Covered

Today, nearly all private and public health insurance plans cover ACIP-recommended vaccines at no cost to you. This includes Medicaid, Medicare, TRICARE, the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, and most private health insurance plans.

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¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/global-immunization/fast-facts/index.html>

² <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/adult-non-flu-vaccines/vaccine-rct-spreadsheet-aims-show-data-dispel-myths-about-vaccines>