

Your COVID-19 boosters in pregnancy

Easy to Read guide

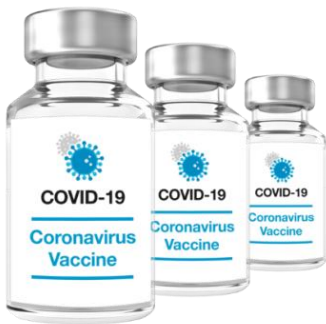
Version 1
September 2022



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Why should I get another COVID-19 vaccine?



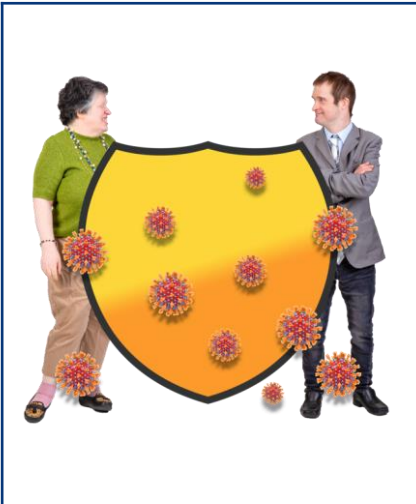
It is important to keep up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines.



This is important even if you had a COVID-19 vaccine before.



This is important even if you have had COVID-19 already.



The protection you get from having COVID-19, or getting the vaccines, weakens over time.



You may be at more risk of serious illness if you get COVID-19.



COVID-19 is a risk to your health and the health of your baby.



Most people who get COVID-19 when pregnant do not get very sick. However, you're more likely to get very unwell and need treatment in intensive care than women who are not pregnant.



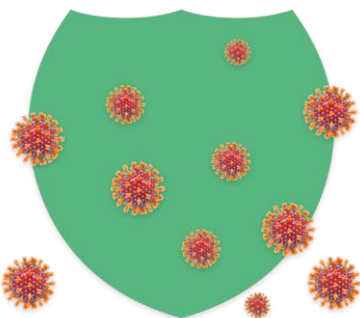
COVID-19 may cause problems for your baby too.



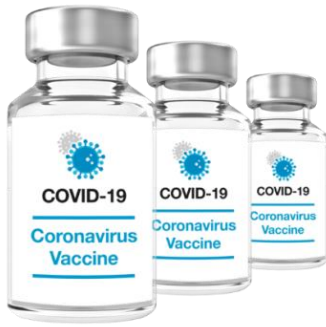
Children under the age of 1 with COVID-19 have more risk of getting very sick and going to hospital.



Young babies whose mothers were vaccinated in pregnancy, were less likely to need hospital care with COVID-19.



Getting a COVID-19 vaccine during pregnancy gives you, and your baby, the best possible protection from COVID-19.



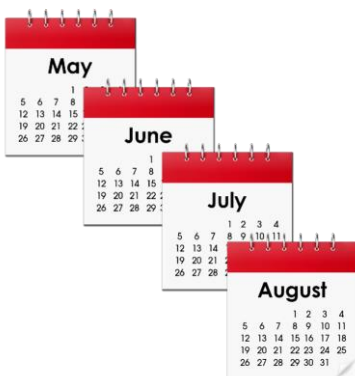
How many COVID-19 vaccines do I need?



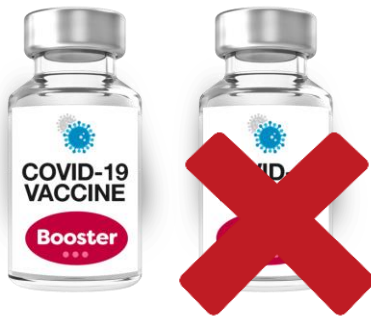
If you had your first round of COVID-19 vaccines and a booster dose before you became pregnant, you can get a second booster dose.



You can get this second booster dose at or after 16 weeks of your pregnancy.



It should be at least 4 months after your first booster dose.



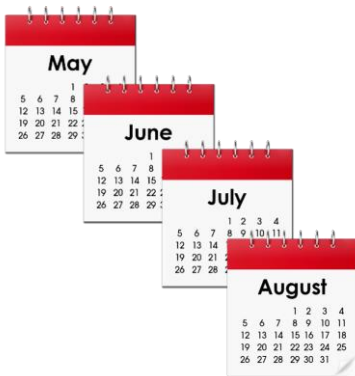
If you got your first booster in this pregnancy, then a second booster dose is not needed.



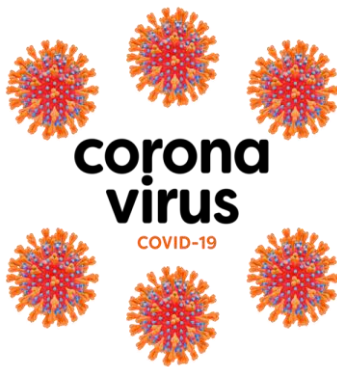
If you have not already had these vaccinations, you can get your first round of COVID-19 vaccines or first booster at any stage of pregnancy.



When should I get a booster?



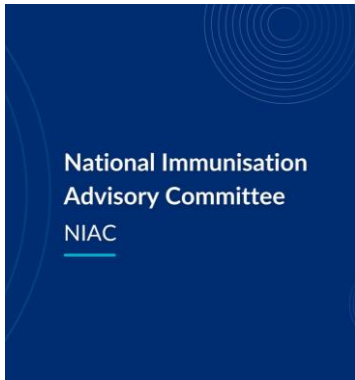
You should get your booster at least 4 months after your last COVID-19 vaccine.



If you have had COVID-19 you should wait at least 4 months before getting your booster.



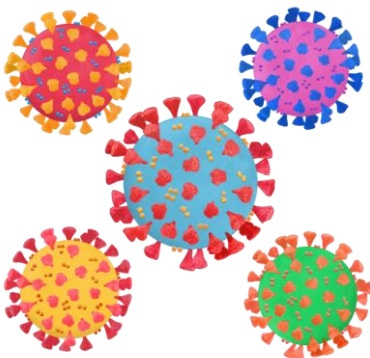
What booster vaccine will I get?



The National Immunisation Advisory Committee said that 3 different COVID-19 vaccines can be given as booster doses.



These are Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.
They are called mRNA vaccines.
They are safe if you are pregnant.



These booster vaccines will protect you from different types of COVID-19.
Different types of COVID-19 are called variants.



What do we know about the safety of boosters?



We have less information on the safety of the second COVID-19 booster, or other boosters after this.



Many countries have given people a number of doses of COVID-19 vaccines.



Research studies show no extra safety concerns so far for people who have more than one booster.



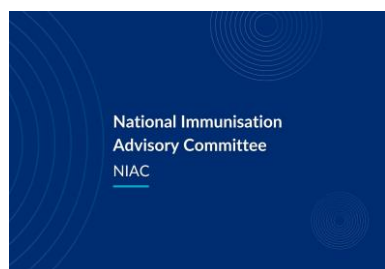
The safety of the booster doses should be the same as the COVID-19 vaccines you got before.



The booster vaccines have an ingredient called Trometamol.
You cannot have these vaccines if you have had a severe allergic reaction to Trometamol.



The European Medicines Agency and National Immunisation Advisory Committee give advice on COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.



In Ireland, we follow advice from the National Immunisation Advisory Committee.



Can I get my COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccines?



Yes, you can get a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as the Flu or Whooping Cough vaccine.



The Whooping Cough vaccine is recommended between 16 and 36 weeks of pregnancy.
It is available all through the year, usually from your GP.



How can I get more information?



You can read more about the vaccines on www.hse.ie/covid19vaccine



You can call our team in HSELive on 1800 700 700.

They are open from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday.

They are open from 9am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday.



You can also talk to your GP, nurse, pharmacist, or vaccinator.

Version 1

Published by the HSE

September 2022

This leaflet will be updated as new information becomes available. For the latest information on COVID-19 vaccines, go to [hse.ie](https://www.hse.ie)

