



After the Children's COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer/BioNTech)

Today your child received the children's (**Pfizer/ BioNTech**) COVID-19 vaccine.

Please read this document carefully, so you know how you can expect them to feel in the next few days and where to get more information if you need to.

Do also read the information leaflet we gave you about the vaccine too.

We are also giving you a record of your child's vaccination today. **Please keep the record card safe.**

What might happen in the next few days?

Some people who get this vaccine might:

- have tenderness and swelling in the arm where they had the vaccine injection
- feel tired
- get a headache
- have muscle pain
- have joint pain
- have diarrhoea
- get a fever (temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or above).

A very small number of people who received the vaccine developed myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the heart lining).

The risk of these very rare conditions is higher in younger men. It is more likely to occur after the second dose and mostly happens within 14 days of getting the vaccine.

As with all vaccines, you can report suspected side effects to the Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA). To report side effects, please visit www.hpra.ie/report

What if my child has a fever or have aches and pains?

If your child has a fever or aches and pains, you can give them paracetamol or ibuprofen.

However, if their fever lasts more than 48 hours or if you are concerned, please seek medical advice.

What do I need to remember when I'm taking my child for the next dose of their COVID-19 vaccine?

Please tell the vaccination team if there have been any changes in your child's medical history. Remember to bring their vaccination record card with you to your next appointment.

When will my child be protected?

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine should protect your child from the serious complications of COVID-19.

It takes 7 days after getting the second dose for it to work.

Some children who have a suppressed immune system, won't get the same level of protection from two doses and will be invited for a third dose.

There is a small chance your child might still get COVID-19 even if they have the vaccine.

We do not know yet if having the vaccine stops your child spreading the virus to others, so you must continue to follow public health advice. For up to date advice visit [hse.ie/covid19](https://www.hse.ie/covid19)

Have a question?

If you are unsure about anything, or have any questions about the COVID-19 vaccine please ask your vaccinator today.

Visit www.hse.ie/covid19vaccine for more information on the COVID-19 vaccine.

Side effects

Please report any side effects to the HPRA at www.hpra.ie/report