

## What Patients Need to Know: *Vaccination*

- **How do I schedule a vaccination appointment?**

Patients who are 12 or older can visit any Roper St. Francis Express Care daily to receive the two-dose Pfizer vaccine. Our Express Cares are experiencing higher than normal wait times because of the surge of COVID-19 cases. Go to [rsfh.com/express-care](https://rsfh.com/express-care) to see locations.

- **Can I still get sick with COVID-19 if I have had the COVID-19 vaccination?**

Yes. It's possible that you still can contract COVID-19 even if you've been vaccinated. The difference is those who are vaccinated are far less likely to end up hospitalized or dying than those who haven't been hospitalized.

- **If I already have had COVID-19, do I still need to get vaccinated?**

Yes, you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19 because: 1. Research has not yet shown how long you are protected from getting COVID-19 again after you recover from COVID-19; 2. Vaccination helps protect you even if you've already had COVID-19.

- **Is it safe for my child to be vaccinated?**

Yes. Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective. Like adults, children may have some side effects after COVID-19 vaccination. These minor side effects may affect their ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.

- **If I am pregnant, should I be vaccinated?**

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all people 12 years and older, including people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now, or might become pregnant in the future.

- **Will the COVID-19 vaccine give me COVID?**

No. The COVID-19 vaccine does not contain SARS-CoV-2 and will not give you COVID-19. None of the COVID-19 vaccines in the United States use the live virus that causes COVID-19. You may have symptoms like a fever after you get any vaccine. This is normal and a sign that your immune system is learning how to recognize and fight the virus.

- **Why should I get vaccinated?**

The COVID-19 vaccine can keep you from getting and spreading the virus. And even if you get COVID-19, it helps prevent you from getting seriously ill. Getting vaccinated also may protect around you, particularly those at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

- **Are the COVID-19 vaccines safe?**

Yes. More than 363 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been given in the United States from Dec. 14, 2020 through Aug. 23, 2021. A small number of people have had a severe allergic reaction after vaccination, but this is rare.