

Will getting the vaccine make me infertile?

- There is no evidence that any vaccines cause infertility, this includes the COVID-19 vaccines.
- While data is limited, many women have been able to get pregnant after receiving their vaccination. As of April 26, 2021, more than 100,000 pregnancies have been reported via the CDC's [v-safe post-vaccination health checker](#) with no concerns reported at this time.

Will the COVID vaccine affect my pre-teen? My menstrual cycles?

- There have been no data to suggest any effect on puberty for pre-teens (pre-pubertal adolescents).
- Some menstrual cycle irregularities have been noted after the COVID-19 vaccinations, like those seen after vaccinations for Influenza or human papillomavirus (HPV). These are temporary effects such as a sore arm at the vaccination site, fever, and headaches.

If I am pregnant, will the vaccine hurt my baby?

- Many pregnant women have already been vaccinated against COVID-19 and have given birth to healthy babies. You do not need to have a pregnancy test prior to receiving the vaccine or avoid pregnancy for any period of time after getting it.
- In fact, the antibodies created from the vaccine have been found to be transmitted across the placenta in the umbilical cord and breastmilk, and will provide protection for the baby in the future

Do the COVID-19 vaccines affect my ability to have another baby?

Although we have limited data at this time, none of the currently authorized vaccines have been seen to affect fertility. Many patients have been able to get pregnant after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine or the coronavirus infection itself.

Do the COVID-19 vaccines cause miscarriages or birth defects?

- None of the studies in animals receiving the Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, or Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines found any safety concerns in the pregnant animals or babies.
- The early data from registries has been reassuring and no safety concerns for pregnant people who were vaccinated was found for the baby or mother. In a recent trial of almost 300 pregnant patients, no increased risk of congenital anomalies/birth defects or pregnancy complications noted after COVID-19 vaccination.
- The Johnson & Johnson vaccine uses a viral vector mechanism that was previously used to vaccinate people during their pregnancies and has not been associated with any adverse outcomes (ie.as was the case with the large-scale Ebola vaccination trials)

Do I need approval from my provider to get the COVID-19 vaccine if I'm pregnant or hoping to become pregnant soon?

No, anyone who would like to receive a COVID-19 vaccine can get it from any facility approved to vaccinate people.

What are the effects of COVID-19 in pregnant people?

While the COVID-19 vaccines have been proven safe and effective for pregnant individuals, the actual COVID-19 infection poses many risks for them and their babies, including:

- Increased risk of admission to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU)
- Increased risk of the need for mechanical ventilation and ventilatory support
- Increased risk of death
- Being pregnant puts you at an increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness, particularly for those with diabetes and those who are overweight
- For Black and Hispanic pregnant patients there is a higher risk of developing severe COVID-19 infection and death
- For Asian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific pregnant patients there is a higher rate of ICU admission with COVID-19 infection

Reference:

1. Vaccinating Pregnant and Lactating Patients Against COVID-19. Practice advisory. December 2020
<https://www.acog.org/en/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice-advisory/articles/2020/12/vaccinating-pregnant-and-lactating-patients-against-covid-19>