

About COVID-19

COVID-19 mainly causes respiratory tract infections but can also cause symptoms from other organs. The elderly and adults with underlying diseases have the greatest risk of a severe COVID-19 disease course. Children and adolescents rarely become seriously ill.

About vaccination of children aged 6 months up to, and including, 4 years

The Norwegian Institute of Public Health has assessed that very few children in the age group 6 months - 4 years will need a vaccine against COVID-19 in Norway. Nevertheless, some children with a serious underlying condition may benefit from vaccination after individual assessment by a doctor who knows the child. Children and adolescents will also gain good protection after having COVID-19 disease.

In Norway, only the mRNA vaccine Comirnaty (BioNTech/Pfizer) is used for children and adolescents. A separate child dose is approved for use from 6 months up to, and including, 4 years. It is recommended that the second dose is given 3 weeks after the first dose, and that the third dose is given at 8 weeks or longer after the second dose. If a child turns 5 years old between doses in the primary vaccination series, they should complete the series with a dose level of 3 µg/dose. Having already had COVID-19 reduces the need for further vaccination, which can be considered when assessing the number of doses required.

The most reported side effects are mild/moderate, occur 1-2 days after vaccination and pass after a few days. For some, the symptoms may be more severe. Common side effects include pain and swelling at the injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, chills, joint pain and fever. Allergic reactions occur in some people but are very rare. For infants, irritability, sleepiness, reduced appetite, and rashes have also been observed.

In rare cases, heart inflammation (myocarditis/pericarditis) can occur after vaccination. This has mainly been seen after the second vaccine dose among adolescents and young adults. Other rare side effects cannot be excluded.

Before vaccination

Vaccination is voluntary. If the child has not reached the age of 16, parents/guardians must give their consent to vaccination. In the case of joint parental responsibility, both parents must consent. Tell the vaccinator if the child has previously had a severe allergic reaction or has received another vaccine less than a week ago. The health conditions that mean that you should not take the vaccine or that require additional assessment are described in the [self-declaration form](#). Tailored information for children and further information can be found at fhi.no/cvp.

Tear here

Child's name: _____

Date of birth: _____

I/we want my/our child to be vaccinated against COVID-19

Tick which dose you are now consenting to:

Dose 1

Dose 2

Dose 3

Guardians with parental responsibility: Parent 1: _____ Parent 2: _____

Parent 1: Full name (write clearly): _____

Parent 1: signature: _____

Tel. number: _____

Parent 2: Full name (write clearly): _____

Parent 2: signature: _____

Tel. number: _____

Information about the child for the vaccinator: