

Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 5 to 11.



What to expect after vaccination.

As with any vaccine, your child may have some side effects after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Common side effects after the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children include:

- pain, redness or swelling at the injection site
- tiredness
- headache
- fever and chills

Less common side effects after the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine in children include:

- joint pain
- muscle pain
- vomiting

These side effects are usually mild and go away within one or two days. If your child experiences pain at the injection site or fever, headaches or body aches after vaccination, they can take paracetamol or ibuprofen. These help to reduce some of the above symptoms (paracetamol or ibuprofen does not need to be taken before vaccination). If there is swelling at the injection site, a cold compress can be applied.

Rare side effects reported after the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine include:

- severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis)
- myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) pericarditis (inflammation of the outer lining of the heart).

You should seek medical attention after vaccination if your child has:

- symptoms of a severe allergic reaction, such as difficulty breathing, wheezing, a fast heartbeat, or if your child collapses
- chest pain, pressure or discomfort, irregular heartbeat, skipped beats or 'fluttering', fainting, shortness of breath, pain with breathing new or unexpected symptoms, or if you are worried about a potential side effect
- an expected side effect of the vaccine that is not settling with paracetamol /ibuprofen or has not gone away after a few days, like headache, fever or chills.

For non-urgent symptoms, you can see your regular healthcare provider (e.g. your GP).

If vaccinated people get COVID-19, it is usually milder, but it can still be passed on to others.

Vaccinated people can still get COVID-19. Even if they have no symptoms, or only mild symptoms, they could still pass the virus on to others. This is why it is important after vaccination to continue other preventative measures, such as:

- physical distancing
- hand washing
- wearing a face mask (depending on age)
- COVID-19 testing and quarantine /isolation as required by your state/territory

If your child has been vaccinated, they should still get a COVID-19 test if they have any symptoms of COVID-19.



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Information provided is based on the Australian Government Department of Health advice and may be subject to change. For vaccine information visit:

www.health.gov.au/covid19-vaccines

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GOLD COAST

An Australian Government Initiative

Stop the spread of COVID-19

It is important that we continue to wear our masks when required, wash or sanitise our hands often, cover our coughs and sneezes with an arm or tissue, keep practising physical distancing and if unwell, stay home and get tested for COVID-19.

Visit www.gcphn.org.au/community/covid-19 for more information.