



COVID-19 Vaccines: Pfizer and Moderna

TIMING OF SECOND PRIMARY DOSE



WHEN SHOULD I GET MY SECOND DOSE OF VACCINE?

The best time to get the 2nd dose of the primary series of either Pfizer or Moderna depends on your individual situation.

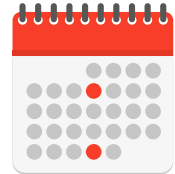


If you are under 65 years of age and you do not have a weak immune system:

- You may benefit from getting your second primary dose 8 weeks after your first dose, especially if you are a male ages 12-39 years. This is because having a longer time between first and second doses may increase how much protection the vaccines offer and lowers the already rare risk of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle). Younger males (age 12-39) have the highest risk of getting myocarditis.
- You should get your second primary dose earlier if you need the fullest protection sooner: at least 3 weeks after your 1st dose of Pfizer and at least 4 weeks after your 1st dose of Moderna. Examples of this are if there is high spread where you live, work, or travel and/or if you are at higher risk for severe disease.
- Talk with your doctor if you are not sure about which timing is best for your situation.

If you are moderately or severely immunocompromised and/or age 65 years and older

- You should get your second primary dose earlier - at least 3 weeks after your 1st dose of Pfizer and at least 4 weeks after your 1st dose of Moderna.
- You should also get a 3rd primary dose at least 4 weeks after your 2nd primary dose if you are immunocompromised.



If you are late getting your second dose, try to get it as soon as you can. You can pick up the vaccine series where you left off. You don't need to start over.

For more information, see ph.lacounty.gov/covidvaccineschedules.