



National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

COVID-19 vaccination in autumn

The COVID-19 vaccination offers
additional protection against
becoming seriously ill from COVID-19

You can schedule
an appointment
by 27 November
2026 at the latest



People who have a higher risk of serious illness due to COVID-19 can get vaccinated against COVID-19 again this autumn. The COVID-19 vaccination offers these people better protection against hospital admission or death due to COVID-19. This is important because the COVID-19 virus is still present and could surge again. For healthy people under 70 years of age, a COVID-19 vaccination is no longer necessary this year.

People who are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination

- People aged 70 years and older;
- People aged 50 to 69 who have an illness or condition that puts them at higher risk of becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. You can check rivm.nl/coronaprik to see if you are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination.
- Adults and children in medical high-risk groups (such as people with severely impaired immunity). You can check rivm.nl/coronaprik to see if you are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination.
- Care workers who have direct contact with vulnerable patients.

In certain situations, the COVID-19 vaccination is also available for people who are not in the target groups. For example, on the advice of an attending physician or for people who have a vulnerable family member.

Invitation letter and making an appointment

- If you are aged 70 years and older, you will receive an invitation letter from RIVM between 25 August and 15 October.
- If you are younger than 70 and fall into one of the target groups listed above, you will not receive an invitation letter. You can make an appointment at the GGD via planjeprik.nl or by calling **0800-7070** during office hours.

Good to know

- The vaccine used is safe and offers effective protection against serious illness due to COVID-19.
- The COVID-19 vaccination is free of charge.
- It is up to you to decide if you want to be vaccinated.

The injection may cause side effects

As with other vaccinations, there is a risk of side effects with the COVID-19 vaccination. These side effects are a normal reaction of your body to the vaccination.

The following symptoms are common:

- pain in your upper arm (puncture site);
- headache;
- fatigue;
- muscle pain;
- fever.

These usually last one to three days. Serious side effects almost never happen. In case of concerns about your health, always contact your attending (family) physician.

If you have been given the COVID-19 vaccination and are experiencing symptoms that do not fall under mild or short-term side effects, please report this to the Netherlands Pharmacovigilance Centre Lareb at www.lareb.nl.



Protect people with weakened immune systems

Some people can become very ill from infections caused by coronavirus, influenza virus (flu) or cold virus. Therefore, please be extra careful around people who have fragile health when you have a respiratory infection. If you have symptoms consistent with a respiratory infection, such as coughing, sneezing, a sore throat and runny or snotty nose:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- In case of mild symptoms, consult with your employer about whether you can work from home.
- In case of symptoms, avoid physical contact with people who could become seriously ill from a respiratory infection. If physical contact is still necessary, wear a face mask. For example, in case of informal care.
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow and wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water, even if you have no symptoms.
- Ensure adequate ventilation.



More information



Would you like
to know more?
Go to rivm.nl/coronaprik

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