Q: How many doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will I need?
A: The Pfizer vaccine requires two doses. An initial vaccination and then a booster shot 21 days later.

Q: Is there an age restriction on the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine?
A: You must be at least 12 years old to receive the Pfizer vaccine.

Q: Why did the FDA choose to expand its Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer vaccine to include children 12 to 15-years old?
A: On May 10, the FDA announced it had expanded its EUA for the Pfizer vaccine to include children 12 to 15 years old after reviewing clinical trial data from a drug trial that included 2,260 participants in this age group. It was determined that the immune response and safety for clinical trial participants in this age group was comparable to that of other age groups. It is a significant step in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and close monitoring of the vaccinated teens will continue. The side effects in adolescents were also consistent with the side effects reported in the clinical trials that included participants 16 years and older.

Q: What are the side effects?
A: Pfizer has said that some Phase III clinical trial participants experienced mild-to-moderate side effects with its investigational COVID-19 vaccine candidate. Scientists anticipate that the shots may cause mild flu-like side effects — including sore arms, muscle aches and fever. After vaccination, we will carefully monitor anyone who previously had an allergic reaction that required medical attention.

Q: Is it safe for a pregnant woman to get the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine?
A: There is no data on the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnant women. According to the CDC, if a woman is part of a group (e.g., health care personnel) that is recommended to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, and she is pregnant, she may choose to be vaccinated. There is some data suggesting that pregnant women are at greater risk for severe COVID-19; women may wish to take this into account in their decision-making. We recommend any pregnant woman considering the vaccine reach out to her health care provider to help make an informed decision.

Q: Can I get the vaccine if I’ve already received another vaccine?
A: The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine should be administered alone with a minimum interval of 14 days before or after administration of any other vaccines due to lack of data on safety and efficacy of the vaccine administered simultaneously with other vaccines.

Q: What does the vaccine look like, and what ingredients are in the vaccine?
A: The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine includes the following ingredients: mRNA, lipids, potassium chloride, monobasic potassium phosphate, sodium chloride, dibasic sodium phosphate dihydrate and sucrose. Click here to see the full list of ingredients.
Q: What should I mention to my personal physician before I get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine?
A: Please talk with your personal physician before getting the vaccine if you:
- have any allergies
- have a fever
- have a bleeding disorder or are on a blood thinner
- are immunocompromised or are on a medicine that affects your immune system
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- are breastfeeding
- have received another COVID-19 vaccine

Q: Who should not get the vaccine?
A: You should not get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine if you had a severe allergic reaction after a previous dose of this vaccine or had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient of this vaccine.

Q: Could I experience a severe allergic reaction to the vaccine?
A: There is a remote chance that the vaccine could cause a severe allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction would usually occur within a few minutes to one hour after getting a dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Signs of a severe allergic reaction can include:
- Difficulty breathing
- Swelling of your face and throat
- A fast heartbeat
- A bad rash all over your body
- Dizziness and weakness

These may not be all the possible side effects of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. Serious and unexpected side effects may occur. The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is still being studied in clinical trials. Click here to read Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Allergy Info Sheet.