

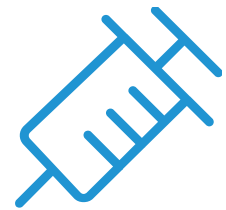
# 4 things to know about the COVID-19 vaccine



The administration of the COVID-19 vaccine is an important step in returning to normal and protecting you and your family. Here is important information on vaccine coverage, efficacy, and availability.

## The COVID-19 vaccine has received FDA emergency use authorization.

This means that the vaccine meets many strict criteria on quality, safety, and efficacy. Many years of coronavirus research has gone into what appears to be a quick development of the COVID-19 vaccine.

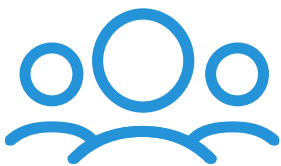


## The vaccine is available at no cost.

All Blue Shield members will be able to receive the vaccine at no cost, without a doctor's referral, at both in- and out-of-network providers.

## Vaccine outcomes are regularly monitored by public health agencies.

The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are safe. The CDC and FDA are closely monitoring side effects and adverse outcomes on an ongoing basis.



## The vaccine is currently being administered in a phased approach.

With a limited number of doses available, priority is given to health care personnel, followed by residents of long-term care facilities. Other priority groups follow based on guidance from public health officials. We anticipate widespread availability of doses sometime in 2021.

For additional resources and frequent updates on COVID-19, please visit [blueshieldca.com/coronavirus](https://blueshieldca.com/coronavirus)

Blue Shield of California is an independent member of the Blue Shield Association.