# Topic: V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker

## V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker

Get vaccinated.

Get your smartphone.

Get started with v-safe.

Use your smartphone to tell CDC about any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. You’ll also get reminders if you need a second vaccine dose.

Parents and guardians can now enroll adolescents (ages 12 and older) in **v-safe** and complete health check-ins on their behalf after COVID-19 vaccination.

**V-safe** is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Through **v-safe**, you can quickly tell CDC if you have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Depending on your answers, someone from CDC may call to check on you and get more information. **V-safe** will also remind you to get your second COVID-19 vaccine dose if you need one.

Parents and guardians can enroll adolescents (ages 12 and older) in **v-safe** and complete health check-ins on their behalf after COVID-19 vaccination. All adolescents in the family who are eligible to be vaccinated can be enrolled in **v-safe**.  Parents and guardians should use their smartphone to complete a separate **v-safe** registration for each adolescent. All **v-safe** communications will be sent to the parent or guardian’s smartphone.

Note:**V-safe cannot schedule COVID-19 vaccination appointments, nor serve as an official record**of being vaccinated against COVID-19. You will receive a COVID-19 vaccination card at your vaccination appointment. Learn more about COVID-19 vaccination cards, including what to do if you lost or did not receive your card at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect.html

If you need to schedule, reschedule, or cancel a COVID-19 vaccination appointment, contact the location that set up your appointment or a vaccine provider in your area. This may be your state or local health department, employer, or vaccine provider. You can also visit Vaccines.gov to find a COVID-19 vaccine near you.

**V-safe** does not provide medical advice. If you have symptoms or health problems that concern you at any time following COVID-19 vaccination, please contact your healthcare provider.

In addition, if you have not been able to report your post-vaccination experience in **v-safe** (because of a missed or expired health check-in), you can also report adverse events after vaccination to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System at https://vaers.hhs.gov/reportevent.html

### How to register and use v-safe

**You will need your smart phone and information about the COVID-19 vaccine you received.** This information can be found on the vaccination record card you received during your vaccination; if you cannot find your card, please contact your healthcare provider.

### Registration Process

1. Go to vsafe.cdc.gov website. Read the onscreen instructions and click **Get Started**.
2. Enter your name, mobile number, and other requested information. Click **Register**.
3. You will receive a text message with a verification code on your smartphone. Enter the code in **v-safe**and click **Verify**.
4. At the top of the screen, click **Enter vaccine information**.
5. Select which COVID-19 vaccine you received (you can find this on your vaccination record card; if you cannot find your card, please contact your healthcare provider). Enter the date you were vaccinated. Click **Next**.
6. Review your vaccine information. If the information is correct, click **Submit**. If it’s not correct, click **Go Back**to correct it.
7. Congrats! You’re all set! If you complete your registration before 2 p.m. local time, **v-safe** will start your initial health check-in around 2 p.m. that day. If you register after 2 p.m., **v-safe** will start your initial health check-in immediately after you register — just follow the instructions.

### What happens next?

You will receive a mid-afternoon reminder text message from **v-safe** for the next check-in. Just click the link in the text message to start your check-in.

### Complete a v-safe health check-in

1. When you receive a **v-safe**check-in text message on your smartphone, click the link when you’re ready. Remember: Links to **v-safe** daily surveys expire at 11:59 PM local time on the day you received the link. Links to weekly surveys expire at 11:59 PM local time on day 6 after you received the link.
2. Follow the instructions to complete your check-in.

## Troubleshooting

### What should I do if I get an error message during registration?

Carefully check the information you are entering, especially the verification code **v-safe** sent you. If you still have problems, close the browser window and start over (go to step 1, Registration).

### How can I come back and finish a check-in later if I’m interrupted?

Later, when you’re ready for your check-in, click the link in the text message reminder to restart and complete your check-in.

### How do I update my vaccine information after my second COVID-19 vaccine dose?

**V-safe** will automatically ask you to update your second dose information. Just follow the instructions.

### When do v-safe text links expire?

Text links to v-safe daily surveys expire at 11:59 PM local time on the day you received the link. Text links to weekly surveys expire at 11:59 PM local time on day 6 after you received the link.

## Frequently Asked Questions About v-safe

### How can I participate in v-safe?

Once you get a COVID-19 vaccine, you can enroll in **v-safe** using your smartphone. Your healthcare provider will give you an information sheet on **v-safe** that explains how to register and get started. **V-safe** is free to use, you will need a smartphone with a modern browser and access to the internet to participate.

If you would like to participate in v-safe, you must sign up within 42 days of getting your first COVID-19 vaccine dose.

### If I don’t have a smartphone, but was given a COVID-19 vaccine, can I still participate in v-safe?

Currently, v-safe can only be accessed with a smartphone — a mobile phone that has a touchscreen, can receive text messages, and has access to the Internet.

If you cannot participate in **v-safe**, you can submit reports of adverse events following vaccination to VAERS, a vaccine safety monitoring system managed by CDC and FDA. If you need additional help submitting a report, you may call the VAERS toll-free information line at 1-800-822-7967 or send an email to [info@vaers.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cnsinclair3%5CDownloads%5CRe__revised_source_document_for_braille_about_the_vaccines%5Cinfo%40vaers.org).

### I can’t find v-safe in either Google Play or the Apple Store. Is it not available on those platforms?

V-safeis not an app you have to download, it’s a secure, online tool you can access with any smartphone. There is no charge to use **v-safe**, other than the normal carrier rates for your phone plan. Once you sign up, **v-safe** sends you text messages that links to short online surveys. These surveys, or health check-ins, allow you to tell CDC how you are feeling after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Anyone with a smart phone, Apple, Android, etc. who received a COVID-19 vaccine in the United States can participate in **v-safe**.

Instructions on how to enroll (including the registration website) are provided at the time of your vaccination. If you have any questions or problems enrolling in **v-safe**, you can call CDC-INFO at 800-232-4636 for help. Also, if you are unable or choose not to participate in**v-safe**, you can report adverse events following vaccination to VAERS.

### How long do v-safe check-ins last?

During the first week after you get your vaccine, **v-safe** will send you a text message each day to ask how you are doing. Then you will get check-in messages once a week for up to 5 weeks. The questions **v-safe** asks take less than 5 minutes to answer.

If you need a second dose of vaccine, **v-safe** will provide a new 6-week check-in process so you can share your second-dose vaccine experience as well. Finally, you’ll receive check-ins 3, 6, and 12 months after your final dose of vaccine.

### Is my health information safe?

Yes. Your personal information in **v-safe** s protected so that it stays confidential and private. To the extent **v**–**safe** uses existing information systems managed by CDC, FDA, and other federal agencies, the systems employ strict security measures appropriate for the data’s level of sensitivity.

### What is the v-safe COVID-19 Pregnancy Registry?

The **v-safe** COVID-19 Vaccine Pregnancy Registry collects health information from people who receive COVID-19 vaccines shortly before or during pregnancy. Participation in the **v-safe** COVID-19 Vaccine Pregnancy Registry is voluntary. This information helps CDC monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in people who are pregnant. Learn more about COVID-19 vaccination considerations for people who are pregnant or breastfeeding at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/pregnancy.html

### How can I participate in the v-safe COVID-19 Pregnancy Registry?

If you report within v-safe that you were pregnant at the time of vaccination or had a positive pregnancy test after vaccination, you might receive a phone call requesting your participation in the **v-safe** COVID-19 Vaccine Pregnancy Registry. Registry participants will be contacted for health check-ins several times throughout their pregnancy, as well as at the end of their pregnancy and when their baby is 3 months old. All participation is voluntary, and participants may opt out at any time. Participation is important because the registry helps monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines when administered during pregnancy.

### How does my participation in v-safe make a difference?

By participating in v-safe, you can tell CDC if you have any side effects after a COVID-19 vaccine. This information helps CDC monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in near real time. If any serious health problems are reported, they can be quickly investigated by CDC’s medical experts and scientists. In addition, traditional vaccine safety systems, such as Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) and the Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD), will also be used to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines. These systems are part the nation’s comprehensive approach to vaccine safety.

### Can v-safe give me medical advice about a health problem I think is related to my COVID-19 vaccination?

**V-safe** does not provide medical advice. If you have symptoms or health problems that concern you at any time following COVID-19 vaccination, please contact your healthcare provider. In addition, if you have not been able to report your post-vaccination experience in **v-safe**(because of a missed or expired health check-in), you can also report adverse events after vaccination to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS).

### Will v-safe give me guidance as to whether I should go to work based on my symptoms after I receive a COVID-19 vaccine?

**V-safe** does not provide medical advice. The purpose of **v-safe** is to collect information about a vaccine recipient’s health following vaccination. If you are experiencing symptoms that are causing you concern, please contact your healthcare provider.

## CDC source information

V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html

Get Vaccinated. Get Your Smartphone. Get Started with V-safe

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/pdfs/v-safe-information-sheet-508c.pdf

Troubleshooting

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/troubleshooting.html

Frequently Asked Questions about v-safe

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/faq.html