



COVID-19 VACCINATION

Information for adults with a chronic illness and people aged 65 and over

Do you have a chronic illness?

Are you aged 65 or older?

COVID-19 poses a risk to you.

We therefore recommend the following: [Get vaccinated.](#)

Why does COVID-19 pose a risk to me?

COVID-19 can have serious, or even very serious, consequences for you. For example, shortness of breath in connection with pneumonia. You will then need to be admitted to hospital and given oxygen. It may take a long time before you are healthy again. If COVID-19 gets worse, you will then need to be treated in intensive care. You may need to be put on a ventilator. COVID-19 can also damage other organs and you can die from it.

For what chronic illnesses do we recommend COVID-19 vaccination?

We recommend vaccination for the following:

- high blood pressure
- cardiovascular illnesses
- diabetes
- chronic respiratory illnesses
- cancer
- illnesses and treatments that weaken the immune system
- severe obesity

If you belong to the group of people with chronic illnesses with the highest risk: Your doctor will urgently recommend vaccination for you as soon as possible.

Is the vaccination effective and safe?

In Switzerland, every vaccine needs an authorisation and a recommendation. For this, it has to meet high standards of safety, efficacy and quality. Swissmedic, the Swiss Agency for Therapeutic Products, has carefully assessed and authorised the vaccine against COVID-19. It is safe and it works. Several tens of thousands of people have received the vaccine in clinical trials. It is also safe and effective in the elderly and those with chronic illnesses. The trials have not shown any serious side effects to date (mid-December 2020). Swissmedic will continue to monitor the safety and efficacy of the vaccine.

In general: The risk of serious side effects after the vaccination is much lower than the risk of experiencing serious illness after being infected with the coronavirus.

Who should not be vaccinated?

We do not recommend the COVID-19 vaccination for the following:

- People with a severe, confirmed allergy to an ingredient of the vaccine (particularly PEG).
- Pregnant women No information on vaccination in pregnancy has been obtained to date.
- Children and adolescents under the age of 16. No information on vaccination in this age group has been obtained to date.

Where can I find further information?

You can find further information on COVID-19 vaccination on the FOPH website (www.foph-coronavirus.ch/vaccination) or ask your doctor or pharmacist.

www.foph-coronavirus.ch/vaccination COVID-19 vaccination infoline: 058 377 88 92

