

COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnancy: FAQs

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Should pregnant women get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes! Pregnant people with COVID-19 are at higher risk for severe disease, hospitalization and pregnancy complications.

In a large multi-national study, pregnant women with COVID-19 were at higher risk for pregnancy-induced hypertension, preeclampsia/eclampsia, infections and admission to the ICU [1].

7-11%

of pregnant women will require **hospitalization** for COVID-19

22x

higher **mortality** rate for pregnant women with COVID-19

Is the COVID-19 vaccine effective in pregnant women?

The COVID-19 vaccines are very effective in protecting pregnant people from severe disease, hospitalization, and death.

In an observational study of pregnant women in Israel, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine had an estimated vaccine effectiveness of 78% [2].

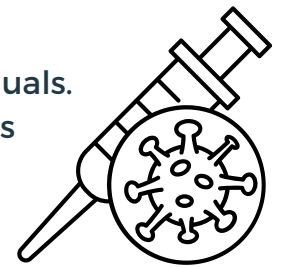
Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe in pregnancy?

Yes. The vaccine does not increase the risk of miscarriage, preterm, stillborn or congenital anomalies.

A large US study found proportions of adverse pregnancy and neonatal outcomes in people vaccinated were similar to incidences before the pandemic [3].

How are mRNA vaccines tolerated in pregnancy?

Pregnant individuals tolerate mRNA vaccines better than non-pregnant individuals. In a US study, the **risk of adverse effects was 50% lower** in pregnant individuals compared with non-pregnant individuals [4].



I Want to Get Pregnant, Can Vaccines Cause Infertility?

No, there is **no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines will affect fertility** [5]. Ideally, pregnancy should be planned 2+ weeks following vaccination to have the full benefits of the vaccine throughout the pregnancy. However, there is no need to delay pregnancy due to vaccine side effects if an individual is found to be pregnant before that time window.

References

1. Villar J, et al. (2021). Maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality among pregnant women with and without COVID-19 infection. The INTERCOVID Multinational Cohort Study. JAMA Pediatr. E1-E10.
2. Goldshtein, I., et al. (2021). Association between BNT162b2 vaccination and incidence of SARS-Cov-2 infection in pregnant women. JAMA.
3. Shimabukuro, T., et al. (2021). Preliminary findings of mRNA Covid-19 vaccine safety in pregnant persons. The New England Journal of Medicine.
4. Kachikis, A., et al. (2021). Short-term Reactions Among Pregnant and Lactating Individuals in the First Wave of the COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout. JAMA network open.
5. Poliquin, V., et al. (2021). The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC) Statement on COVID-19 Vaccination in Pregnancy.