

# Your child aged 12-15 can be vaccinated against COVID-19

The vaccination is  
voluntary and free.

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You may have many questions as a parent when deciding whether your child should be vaccinated or not. Therefore we have gathered some answers to common questions about the vaccination against COVID-19.

You can find more information about the vaccination of children aged 12-15 here at [sst.dk/covid-vaccination-eng](https://sst.dk/covid-vaccination-eng)

# Why do we recommend vaccinating children aged 12-15?

**1** The Danish Health Authority recommends that children aged 12 and older are vaccinated against COVID-19. There are several reasons for this:

- The more people who are vaccinated, the better we can prevent the spread of infection and new variants
- We currently have a more contagious variant of coronavirus in Denmark. By vaccinating children aged 12-15, we will have better control of the epidemic, and can prevent the spread of infection as we enter the autumn
- Vaccinated children help to stop chains of infection, which protects elderly and vulnerable family members who are not vaccinated, and those the vaccine is less effective for
- The increased immunity of the population gives both children and adults a more normal everyday without testing and infection tracing
- The vaccine effectively protects children from becoming ill from COVID-19. However, children rarely become severely ill

# A safe and effective vaccine

The vaccine from Pfizer-BioNTech is now approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for everyone over 12 years. The vaccine is approved for children on the basis of an approval study, showing that the vaccine effectively prevents COVID-19 and is safe for children aged between 12 and 15.

The US and Israel vaccinate children between 12 and 15 years, and several European countries also offer vaccinations for children aged 12 and above. As of 14 June 2021, the US had vaccinated around 3.8 million children.

The Danish Health Authority has carried out a thorough professional review and

on this basis recommends vaccination for children aged 12-15. The professional review was based on EMA's assessment of the vaccine from Pfizer-BioNTech, the approval study and experience from other countries.

The safety and efficacy of the vaccines against COVID-19 that have been used will be monitored very closely in the future by the Danish Medicines Agency and EMA. It is a common procedure to monitor adverse reactions of medicines and vaccines after they have been approved. If possible side effects are detected, they will be investigated immediately.

## Does the vaccine cause side effects in children?

All vaccines cause side effects, including the vaccines against COVID-19. In the vast majority of cases, these will be mild side effects, which are natural signs that the body's immune system is responding to the vaccine.

Common side effects can be a local reaction at the injection site. This can be redness, swelling, aches, and general reactions such as mild fever, fatigue, headaches, muscle and joint pain. Side effects typically last a couple of days.

In rare cases, severe allergic reactions may occur, which can be caused by an allergy against the additives in the vaccine. If your child has a history of severe allergy against for example medicines, you should talk with the person who is vaccinating your child or with your own doctor.

You can always contact your own doctor if you have further questions.

# Keep an eye on your e-Boks

**4** Your child's age determines when they will receive an invitation for vaccination.

## Under 15 years

The invitation will be sent to the parents' e-Boks. It is the parents who can book an appointment on vacciner.dk. If you are exempt from Digital Post, you will receive a letter in the post and can book an appointment by calling the region where you live. The telephone number is in the letter.

## 15 years and older

The invitation will be sent to your child's e-Boks, who can book their appointment themselves on vacciner.dk. Parents will receive a copy of the invitation.

# How does the vaccination take place?

- Children under 15 years must have a parent with them when they are vaccinated
- Show up at the vaccination site as close to your appointment time as possible
- Remember to bring your child's yellow health insurance card
- After they have had their vaccination, you must wait 15 minutes at the vaccination site, so your child can receive help if they have an allergic reaction. This very rarely happens
- Remember that your child must be vaccinated twice to receive the best possible protection

# Who will vaccinate my child?

It is always a doctor who is responsible for the vaccination. However, it is not always a doctor, but another health professional, who will vaccinate your child. There will always be health professionals at the vaccination centre who you can talk to and who can help you if you need it.

# Any other questions?

You can find answers to more questions on our website. You can also see some short films about vaccination of children. On our website you can also find the data that forms the basis of our recommendation to vaccinate children aged 12 and above.

See more at [sst.dk/en/English/Corona-eng/Vaccination-against-COVID-19](https://sst.dk/en/English/Corona-eng/Vaccination-against-COVID-19)