

DON'T WAIT TO VACCINATE

COVID-19 vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines.

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If a patient is eligible, **both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be administered at the same visit**, as [recommended by CDC and its Advisory Committee on Immunizations Practices \(ACIP\)](#).

In addition to flu vaccine, the **COVID-19 vaccine can be given with other vaccines as well**.

It is unknown whether reactogenicity (inflammatory response soon after vaccination) of COVID-19 vaccine is increased with coadministration, including with other vaccines known to be more reactogenic, such as adjuvanted vaccines or live vaccines.

Extensive experience with non-COVID-19 vaccines indicates immunogenicity and adverse event profiles are generally similar when vaccines are administered simultaneously as when they are administered alone.

Coadministration considerations:

- Individual is behind or at risk of becoming behind on recommended vaccines
- Individual's risk of vaccine-preventable disease (e.g., during an outbreak or occupational exposures)
- Reactogenicity profile of the vaccines

Giving all vaccines for which a person is eligible at the same visit is considered a [best practice](#) as it increases the probability people will be up to date on recommended vaccines. It also is an important part of immunization practice, especially if a health care provider is uncertain that a patient will return for additional doses of vaccine.

If multiple vaccines are administered at a single visit, administer each injection in a different injection site. For adolescents and adults, the deltoid muscle can be used for more than one intramuscular injection administered at different sites in the muscle.

CDC has [guidance for health care providers](#) on coadministration of vaccines. Essential best practices for multiple injections include:

- Label each syringe with the name and the dosage (amount) of the vaccine, lot number, the initials of the preparer, and the exact beyond-use time, if applicable.
- Separate injection sites by 1 inch or more, if possible.
- Administer the COVID-19 vaccines and vaccines that may be more likely to cause a local reaction (e.g., tetanus-toxoid-containing and adjuvanted vaccines) in different limbs, if possible.

Check out [additional information](#) on best practices for administering vaccines.

Additional Information on Administration of Influenza Vaccines with Other Vaccines

- IIV4s (Inactivated Influenza Vaccines) and RIV4 (Recombinant Influenza Vaccine) may be administered concurrently or sequentially with other live or inactivated vaccines.
- Providers should refer to current CDC/ACIP recommendations and guidance for the use of COVID-19 vaccines for up-to-date information on administration of these vaccines with other vaccines.
- Injectable vaccines given simultaneously should be administered at separate anatomic sites.
- LAIV4 (Live, Intranasal) may be administered simultaneously with other inactivated or live vaccines. If not given simultaneously, then ≥ 4 weeks should pass between administration of LAIV4 and another live vaccine.
- Immunogenicity and safety of simultaneous or sequential administration of two vaccines containing non-aluminum adjuvants has not yet been evaluated.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has [additional information](#) for the prevention and control of seasonal Influenza with vaccines.

Strategies to Prevent Missed Opportunities to Vaccinate Against COVID-19 and Flu

- Utilize Standing Orders. [The Community Preventive Services Task Force and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) note standing orders for immunizations as an effective strategy to increase immunization coverage rates for both children and adults.
- Offer walk-in appointments or after-hours/weekend clinics to accommodate patient schedules.
- Ensure sufficient stock is available for both flu and COVID-19 vaccines based on your patient population's size and ages.
- Assess patient vaccination status during every clinical encounter. Set reminder alerts in your electronic health records for staff.