



COVID-19 vaccine

SARS CoV-2

The Covid-19 vaccine is part of the Routine Yukon Immunization Program.

SARS CoV-2 (Covid-19) disease is an infection caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The virus is spread by breathing, coughing, sneezing, singing and talking. It can also spread by touching a contaminated object, and then not washing your hands before touching your own eyes, mouth, or nose. The elderly and those with chronic conditions are at higher risk of severe Covid-19 illness. Everyone 6 months of age and older can receive the Covid-19 Vaccine for free.

SARS CoV-2 can cause:

- fever and chills;
- fatigue;
- cough and shortness of breath;
- muscle and joint pains;
- sore throat;
- headache;
- loss of smell or taste; and
- digestive upset or diarrhea.

Complications may lead to:

- hospitalizations;
- multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C);
- post COVID-19 condition (PCC); and
- death.

Why is Covid-19 Vaccine recommended?

The COVID-19 virus causes mild to moderate symptoms in many individuals. Older people and those with certain health conditions are at high risk of severe illness. This vaccine is safe and effective. It is the best way to reduce complications from SARS-CoV-2 infections.

The Covid-19 immunization is very effective and safe. Getting immunized against SARS CoV-2 helps protect others as well as yourself.

Possible side effects of the vaccine

Common reactions to the immunization may include redness, tenderness and swelling at the injection site. Some may develop a fever, headache, fatigue, or digestive problems. These are generally mild and last 1 to 2 days.

Side effects of the immunization are easy to relieve. Apply a cold, damp compress to the site. If needed, give a pain reliver like acetaminophen. Talk to your health care provider if your symptoms are severe or last longer than 48 hours.

It's important to stay at the clinic for 15 minutes after getting the vaccine because, although it's very rare, some people might have a severe allergic reaction. The clinic can treat it right away. This happens to less than 1 in a million people. If you have a reaction after leaving, call 911 or your local emergency number.

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