

COVID-19 Vaccinations for Arizonans Living with HIV



COVID-19 and its variants remain a serious threat to Arizonans. People Living with HIV are encouraged to receive the vaccine to help:

- Reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Protect against severe disease and death

Vaccines along with other prevention measures can help end the COVID-19 pandemic.



Q1: Is the vaccine harmful to anyone currently on HIV medications?

A1: All three FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines have no interactions with HIV medications.

A2: It is not recommended that people with HIV stop their HIV medicines when they receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Stopping your HIV medications could put you at greater risk for HIV-related illnesses and at greater risk for serious infection due to COVID-19.



Q2: For people living with HIV with a CD4<200/low immune system, is the COVID-19 vaccine effective and does HIV status need to be shared?

A1: People with HIV should receive the COVID-19 vaccine regardless of CD4 count or viral load. The CDC advises that people who are immunocompromised, including people with HIV, receive the COVID-19 vaccine because of their potential increased risk for serious illness due to COVID-19.

A2: People living with HIV were included in the studies to create and evaluate the COVID-19 vaccine.

A3: People with HIV may be asked a number of screening questions depending on vaccination site. If they do not want to share HIV status, they could share they are immunocompromised.





COVID-19 vaccines are available to everyone regardless of country of origin.



Keep regular HIV-care appointment and follow up with your provider about any COVID-19 questions.

Q3: Is insurance or copayment needed to receive the COVID-19 vaccine?

A1: There is no charge for the COVID-19 vaccine and you do not need insurance to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The federal government is covering the cost of the COVID-19 vaccine for everyone.

A2: If you do have insurance, there may be a fee for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, but that fee should be charged to your health insurance provider, including Medicaid or Medicare.

A3: If you normally do have a copayment for an office visit with your provider, you might be required to pay that office visit copayment.

Q4: Why is there a vaccine for COVID-19 in less than a year, but still no vaccine for HIV?

A1: The virus that causes COVID-19 is very different from HIV. The body rids itself of the virus that causes COVID-19 within weeks while HIV stays in the body and affects the immune system. These differences, and many others, make creating an HIV vaccine much more complicated.

A2: Work on developing an HIV vaccine continues and some of the early work in developing an HIV vaccine helped to create the authorized COVID-19 vaccines.

A3: Information from creating the COVID-19 vaccines might be helpful for other vaccines, including for HIV.

Information on where to get a COVID-19 vaccine:



Scan Code



Vaccines Map



Vaccines Registration

Need to make an appointment for HIV-Care?

Contact Ryan White Part B Program

Email: careandservices@azdhs.gov

Call: (602) 360-3610

