



# COVID-19 Vaccine Update

**April 20, 2021**

## What should I know?

- As of April 19, 2021, the RI Department of Health (RIDOH) is now vaccinating all people 16 years of age and older. Towns are also giving the vaccine (*see section below for more info*).
- The FDA and CDC have jointly recommended suspending the administration of the Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine. No Rhode Island vaccination centers are using this vaccine. [Learn more.](#)
- As soon as the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available to you at Coastal Medical, we'll be sure to let you know.
- Coastal patients who have the opportunity to receive the vaccine at locations other than Coastal Medical offices should receive it through one of those other community resources, as applicable.
- The safety of COVID-19 vaccines is a top priority.
- The vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19.
- The vaccination will be a safer way to help build protection than getting COVID-19.
- You will need two doses of the vaccination. After receiving it, you may have some side effects. This is a normal sign that your body is building protection.
- Cost is not an obstacle to getting vaccinated against COVID-19.
- The vaccine is one of many important tools to help us stop this pandemic, but everyone (including those who are vaccinated) will need to continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.
- [Please click here for answers to commonly asked questions about the vaccine.](#)

## When can I expect to get the vaccine?

- Starting April 19, the RI Department of Health will be vaccinating people 16+ years of age. The process of vaccinating eligible patients is being handled by the town people live in and via state-run sites. [Click here for COVID-19 Vaccination Information in Your Community](#)
- You can make an appointment at state vaccination centers and town vaccination sites posted on the RI Department of Health website, [www.vaccinateri.org](http://www.vaccinateri.org). New appointments are regularly added on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and Fridays at 5 p.m.
- You can also sign up on the websites of retail pharmacies at [www.cvs.com](http://www.cvs.com) and [www.walgreens.com](http://www.walgreens.com).
- To receive updates as eligibility opens to new groups, click on the link below.  
[Join the RIDOH's Vaccine Interest Notification List](#)  
*Enrolling in this list does NOT guarantee an appointment for vaccination.*