

VACCINE DETAILS AND SAFETY

Local authorities in each country, have approved vaccines for use after ensuring that the vaccines meet all safety requirements.

1. How do we know that the vaccine is both safe and effective?

International regulatory authorities determine safety and efficacy based on data obtained from different stages of clinical trials. Local regulatory authorities have approved vaccines for use, after ensuring that the vaccines meet all safety requirements.

2. How do vaccines work?

COVID-19 vaccines help our bodies develop immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19 without us having to get the illness. They contain weakened or inactive parts of a particular organism (antigen) that triggers an immune response within the body. In other words, these vaccines stimulate the immune system to produce antibodies to fight the infection without making the person ill.

3. What are the differences between the multiple vaccines available?

There are multiple vaccines approved by regulatory authorities across the world. Each manufacturer has chosen targeted components of the virus and/or how the vaccine is delivered within the body. Although these choices vary, the principle of creating immunity is the same.

4. Which COVID-19 vaccines are available?

UAE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Abu Dhabi</u>: Sinopharm• <u>Dubai</u>: Sinopharm and Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
KSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pfizer BioNTech
Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pfizer BioNTech
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sinopharm• Pfizer BioNTech
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pfizer BioNTech
Kuwait	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pfizer BioNTech
Jordan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sinopharm• Pfizer BioNTech
Lebanon	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The vaccine approved by the regulator is not yet available for public use
Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The vaccine approved by the regulator is not yet available for public use

5. Is it safe for everyone to take the vaccine?

We recommend that you share all information about your health and any ongoing treatment with the relevant authorities, prior to receiving the vaccine dosage.

The following people should consult with their treating physician to determine if and which vaccine may or may not be appropriate for their unique situation;

- Pregnant and lactating women
- Women who plan to get pregnant in the next three months
- Children below 16 years

- People with an immunodeficiency disease
- Those with a history of severe allergies

6. What is the recommended vaccine dosage?

- Current approved vaccinations comprise of two doses, taken separately.
 - **Sinopharm:** The second administration can be between 21 and 28 days later
 - **Pfizer BioNTech:** The gap between doses should be 21 days
- For the vaccine to be effective, it is necessary to adhere to the appointment of the second dose as per the advised scheduled time

7. Is a Covid-19 test required between the two doses?

It is recommended that you only take a COVID-19 test on consultation with your physician, who will advise based on symptoms, and/or any exposure to the virus. Local authorities do not require a COVID-19 test between the two vaccination doses.

8. Is it safe for people with chronic diseases to take the vaccine?

The regulatory authorities, that have approved the vaccines after ensuring that it meets all safety requirements, have iterated that the vaccine is safe, effective and indicated for people with chronic diseases as they are at a higher risk of developing COVID-19 complications.

We recommend that you share all information about your health and any ongoing treatment with the relevant authorities, prior to receiving the vaccine dosage.