

Recombinant protein with adjuvant COVID-19 Vaccine (Novavax or Medicago)

Vaccination,
the best protection

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Vaccination is the best protection against COVID-19 and its complications, in addition to other measures such as physical distancing, wearing a medical mask or face covering, and hand washing.

Disease	Signs and symptoms	Possible complications
COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Cough• Trouble breathing• Loss of smell• Fatigue• Headaches• Muscle aches• Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea• Overall sick feeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Persistent long COVID-19 complications lasting several months: trouble breathing, fatigue, weakness, difficulty falling/staying asleep, and concentrating• Pneumonia and other respiratory issues• Heart problems• Neurological problems such as brain inflammation, etc.• Death

The vaccine

Vaccination is the best protection against COVID-19 and its complications. Novavax vaccine or Medicago vaccine can be given to people aged 18 and over for whom RNA vaccines are contraindicated or who refuse RNA vaccines.

Novavax or Medicago vaccine require 2 doses. A booster dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine is also recommended for adults who received Novavax or Medicago vaccine. The booster dose provides a better immune response than 2 doses of Novavax or Medicago vaccine. Administration of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine after a dose of Novavax or Medicago vaccine does not appear to cause more reactions than 2 doses of RNA vaccine. However, people who received Novavax or Medicago vaccine may choose to continue their vaccination with Novavax or Medicago vaccine.

Novavax vaccine are approximately 90% effective against infections caused by the Alpha variant. Medicago vaccine are approximately 70% effective against infections caused by the Delta and Gamma variants. Studies are ongoing to evaluate the efficacy of these vaccines against the Omicron variant.

People on dialysis or with a weakened immune system should receive 3 doses followed by a 2 booster doses, preferably with a RNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna).

For people who had a positive test for COVID-19 before the 1st dose of vaccine, 1 dose is required, followed by a booster dose. There is no risk in giving more than 2 doses of vaccine to someone who has had COVID-19, but the additional dose does not protect them more. For people who had COVID-19 when they were given the 1st dose or after, at least 2 doses are required. People on dialysis or with weakened immune systems should receive 3 doses followed by a 2 booster doses.

Symptoms after vaccination

Some symptoms may be caused by the vaccine (e.g., pain at the injection site). Other problem may occur by chance and are not related to the vaccine (e.g., cold, diarrhea). Most reactions are harmless and do not last long. These reactions occur more often with the 2nd dose.

Novavax and Medicago vaccines cannot cause COVID-19 because they do not contain the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes the disease. However, people who have been in contact with the virus could still develop COVID-19.

Safety of the vaccine

Novavax and Medicago vaccines are approved by Health Canada. They have met all the requirements for approval. These vaccines was tested on a large number of people. Experts are closely monitoring any adverse reactions that could occur following vaccination and taking measures to ensure the safety and effectiveness of this vaccine.

(see verso)

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Frequency	Known reactions to this vaccine	What to do
In most cases (more than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain or tenderness at the injection site • Headache, fatigue • Muscle soreness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply a cold, damp compress at the injection site. • Use medication for fever or discomfort if needed. • See a doctor if symptoms are severe.
Very often (less than 50% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redness or swelling at the injection site • Joint pain • Swollen armpit lymph nodes or neck • Shivering 	
Often (less than 10% of people)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nausea or vomiting • Fever 	
Rarely (less than 1 person in 10,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myocarditis following vaccination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See a doctor if you develop chest pain, palpitations or shortness of breath.

Pain at the infection site, discomfort, fatigue, headache, muscle soreness joint pain, swollen armpit lymph nodes or neck and shivering occur more often after the 2nd dose.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, trouble breathing, loss of smell, etc.), consult the *COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool*: <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/self-isolation/covid-19-self-assessment-tool>.

We recommend that you stay at the clinic at least 15 minutes after vaccination because allergic reaction may occur. If an allergic reactions occurs, the symptoms will appear a few minutes after vaccination. The person giving the vaccine will be able to treat this reactions immediately.

For any questions, contact the person giving the vaccine, or Info-Santé 811 or your doctor.