

Hi there!

Getting vaccinated protects against the coronavirus

Vaccine information for children

You will most certainly have heard a lot about the coronavirus by now and have often talked about it with your family and friends. It is tiny and we cannot see it with the naked eye. Sneezing, coughing, hugging each other or getting too close to others can pass the virus on.

Because the virus is still pretty new, many people are not yet immune to it. That means: they still cannot protect themselves well enough against the virus. People who catch the coronavirus can react in many different ways. Some don't even notice that they have the virus. Others only feel a little ill. But there are also people who get very sick and have to go to hospital – or who always feel tired and have headaches long after the disease is gone. Luckily, most children only get a little sick if they catch the virus. Unfortunately, especially older people can get severely ill and the Omicron variant of the virus keeps spreading further. To make sure as few people as possible catch the virus, restaurants, shops and even schools were closed time and again throughout the pandemic! That is not so great. But here's the good news: Since we can now vaccinate people, we can effectively protect ourselves – above all from getting severely ill.

You and your family are wondering whether you should get vaccinated?

You will no doubt have asked yourself:
What happens if I get vaccinated?
How does it actually work?

We'll explain it to you! First off, the three most important points and then we'll go into a bit more detail once you turn the page.

Vaccination is one of humans' greatest inventions and helped us control many other diseases, even before the coronavirus existed. For example, many babies already get vaccinated against various childhood diseases.

The vaccine trains your body's immune system so that it will recognise and successfully fight off the real virus if you catch it.

In very rare cases, a vaccine might have side effects. But the risks of the disease are much more dangerous than the possible side effects of the vaccine.



If you want to know more, continue reading here:

How does vaccination work?

Vaccines train your body's defences, also known as your immune system. The vaccine helps your immune system to fend off the virus by making your body recognise it as a trouble-maker before it gets the chance to really make you sick. Imagine a football team without a goalkeeper. Almost every single shot would be a goal! And if the goalkeeper hasn't trained properly? It would surely mean a crushing loss for the team. This is why football teams need a keeper.

The more the goalie has trained with their team, the fewer goals the other team will score.

Vaccines work this way, too. They fend off the virus as quickly as possible. The more recent your immune system's training, the better your body's defences. Of course, no goalkeeper in the world can save every single shot. And like that, it might also happen that some people catch the virus or get ill even though they are vaccinated. However, most of these people get far less sick than those who are not vaccinated. And just because a keeper lets in a goal every so often, you wouldn't start playing without one, would you? Those who are vaccinated are much better prepared for the virus than those who are not.



But what about the vaccine's side effects?

There is a special vaccine for children. It's the BioNTech vaccine for children. This vaccine was developed especially for children. Above all, it protects you from getting severely sick or remaining sick for a long time. The scientists studying the vaccine have not yet found any serious side effects. However, your arm may hurt after the vaccination and you may feel tired or get a headache. This shows that your body is dealing with the vaccine.

You could say: Your body is training – and you're feeling the sore muscles!

So why does vaccination make sense?

Above all, you're protecting yourself from catching the virus. But you also protect those close to you, such as your grandparents, parents or siblings, who could get more seriously ill because they, for example, are older and their immune system is not as fit as yours anymore. What's more, it is harder for the virus to spread when there are more people, and that also includes children, who are vaccinated. Just like with football, vaccination is teamwork!

For more information, check corona-schutzimpfung.de/kinder