COVID-19 VACCINES

Frequently Asked Questions for Pregnant Patients

Why Should Pregnant Patients Get Vaccinated Against COVID-19?

CDC, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, **all recommend COVID-19 vaccination during any trimester in pregnancy,** with emphasis on vaccinating as soon as possible.

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective in pregnancy offering key protection against severe COVID-19. In data analyzed from CDC's COVID-NET, **93% of pregnant patients hospitalized** with symptomatic COVID-19 were unvaccinated.

Infants up to 6 months of age have the **highest rates of COVID-19-related hospitalizations** among pediatric patients, according to COVID-NET data from March 2020 to May 2024. Vaccination during pregnancy can help offer passive immunity to young infants until they are eligible to receive the vaccine at 6 months of age.

COVID-19 vaccines can be given **during the same visit** as other scheduled maternal vaccinations such as **influenza and Tdap.**

Have the COVID-19 Vaccines Been Studied in Pregnant Patients?

Although pregnant patients were excluded from the original clinical trials, numerous studies have since been published with mRNA vaccines evaluating the safety and effectiveness in pregnancy.

Over **23,000 pregnancies** have been reported and evaluated through the **CDC's COVID-19 Vaccine Pregnancy Registry** with no observation of increased risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes.

COVID-19 mRNA vaccines **have not been associated with an increased risk of complications** such as preterm birth, miscarriage, or birth defects in clinical data.

Talking Points with Pregnant Patients

- Vaccines offer important **protection against COVID-19**, which has been associated with pre-term birth and miscarriage in pregnant patients

- There have been **no safety concerns** identified with COVID-19 vaccines in pregnancy

- COVID-19 vaccines **cannot cause COVID-19**

- Infants up to 6 months of age are at the **highest rates of hospitalization** from COVID-19

- Pregnant patients report **similar side effects** to nonpregnant patients