

Vaccine in short for **Spikevax repeat vaccine (Moderna) against COVID-19**

What is this vaccine for?

This vaccine is an extra vaccination (repeat vaccine) against the coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2). This is an updated vaccine. It targets the original virus as well as the Omicron variant. The repeat vaccine provides better protection against the coronavirus.

You could develop symptoms if you become infected with this virus. Possible symptoms are fever, coughing, a sore throat, a runny nose and loss of smell and taste. You may also experience serious symptoms, such as shortness of breath and pneumonia. Some people die from the coronavirus.

You are receiving this repeat vaccine to prevent you from getting seriously ill from the coronavirus.

How does this vaccine work?



Your body will have produced antibodies as a result of the basic vaccinations. These antibodies protect you against the coronavirus. The amount of antibodies present slowly decreases over time after your last vaccination or infection with the coronavirus.

A **repeat vaccine** will help provide better protection against the coronavirus. As a result, you will not become ill, or not as ill as you would otherwise be.

When will I receive this vaccine?

The vaccine has been approved for people from 12 years of age and for anyone who has had the basic vaccinations for COVID-19. The Government of the Netherlands decides who receives an invitation for this repeat vaccine.

You will receive the repeat vaccine at least 3 months after your last vaccination.



You will receive the vaccination in your upper arm.

How was this vaccine approved?

- Numerous studies have been carried out into the safety and efficacy of the original vaccine. In addition, a great deal of experience has been gained with the use of the original vaccine.
- The repeat vaccine has only been slightly modified. Additional studies have been carried out for the repeat vaccine containing Omicron BA1. Those studies show that the side effects are similar. The amount of antibodies your body produces against the Omicron variant is higher than after an original booster vaccine (repeat vaccine). The amount of antibodies produced by your body against the original virus is roughly the same.

Caution!



You are allowed to drive a car after receiving this vaccine. However, you should not drive if you experience side effects such as tiredness.



Are you pregnant? You can get vaccinated.

Most important warnings

Ask your doctor whether you are allowed to receive this vaccine if you:

- Have previously had an **allergic reaction** to a vaccine.

The RIVM advises to make a new appointment if you:

- Are **very ill** or have a **high fever** before you receive the vaccination.
- Have COVID-19. Or could possibly have COVID-19.
- Have **missed** your vaccination appointment.

You have a very small chance of inflammation of your heart muscle or the outer lining of the heart. This usually occurs within 2 weeks. **Contact your doctor immediately** if you experience the following after your vaccination:

- Chest pain.
- Shortness of breath.
- Feeling your heart beating (palpitations).

Most important side effects

As with any other vaccines, you may experience side effects. Most side effects occur because the vaccine triggers your body's immune system. This provides protection against the coronavirus.

The following most common side effects are known from studies. These side effects are similar to those of the original vaccine. More than 1 in 10 users of this vaccine will experience:

- Pain at the injection site.
- Tiredness.
- Headache.
- Muscle pain.
- Joint pain.
- Chills.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Painful and swollen lymph nodes in the armpit.

These side effects usually last 1 to 3 days.

A serious side effect that very rarely occurs is inflammation of your heart muscle or the outer lining of the heart.

More information?

Do you have any questions or concerns about vaccination? Please discuss these with your doctor or pharmacist.

You can find the official vaccine product leaflet at [EMA.europa.eu](https://ema.europa.eu). For more information, go to government.nl. Do you want to report a side effect? Or would you like more information about side effects? Visit lareb.nl/en.