

Kaiser Permanente Colorado Begins Administering Moderna COVID-19 vaccine

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has granted emergency use authorization to Moderna, allowing distribution of its new vaccine for COVID-19.

Vaccine safety and effectiveness

In order to receive authorization, Moderna enrolled more than 30,000 participants in a Phase 3 clinical trial and met required protocols for effectiveness. The vaccine showed greater than 94% efficacy. Some clinical trial participants reported fevers, fatigue, muscle aches, and soreness around injection sites. These side effects are normal and a sign that the body is building immunity.

Kaiser Permanente has been involved in the Moderna clinical trials from the beginning, conducting Phase 1 at the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute. In fact, the first patient to receive any coronavirus vaccine in the U.S. was a Kaiser Permanente member from Washington. Kaiser Permanente has also been involved in the recruitment of participants for the subsequent phases of the trials for both the Moderna vaccine and the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine.

What we know and what comes next:

- We will be administering the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, which requires 2 doses, 28 days apart. The same authorized vaccine brand must be used for both injections.
- Currently, those who fall into Phase 1a designated by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. We will provide an update when we move to the next phase (1b).
- The initial supply of the COVID-19 vaccine is limited, so not everyone will be able to get vaccinated right away. [Click here to learn who in Colorado is eligible for vaccination.](#)
- Vaccine administration will be available at [18 Kaiser Permanente locations.](#)
- Appointments are required to receive the vaccine.
- Members who have been notified they are eligible to receive the vaccine can visit kp.org or call **303-338-4545** (TTY **711**) to make appointment. Members who want to be screened for vaccine eligibility may also call this number

More answers to your COVID-19 vaccine questions can be [found in this article.](#)

Stay hopeful, stay safe

It will likely take several months to achieve widespread vaccination. Please continue to stay safe and healthy. Kaiser Permanente's infectious disease experts and clinicians ask that people stay home for the holidays. Wear a mask, wash your hands, stay 6 feet apart — and remember to get your flu shot.

Thank you for your patience and persistence. We will continue to update you as more information becomes available. Together, we'll continue to keep your workforce — and our communities — healthy and strong.