



MAY 19TH, 2022

Memorial Day is Monday, May 30th

Honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Military



CARRIE'S
COVID Q&A

Question: Why do some people who have been vaccinated against COVID -19 still get infected with the virus?

Answer: When someone who has been vaccinated or even boosted against the virus tests positive for COVID-19, it is called a breakthrough infection. Here are several reasons why this might happen:

- No vaccine is 100% effective so while people who are vaccinated are much less likely to get sick, it will still happen in some cases.
- Immunity or our body's ability to fight viruses varies from person to person. Immunity can also become less strong over time. This is why scientists recommend getting any boosters that are available to you.
- When the vaccines were developed, they were targeted to create an immune response against the original strain of the virus. As the virus has mutated, it looks less and less like the original strain. This is why the vaccine may not be as effective against Omicron and it's subvariants when compared to Delta and Alpha.

It is important to remember that most breakthrough infections do remain mild. The most recent research available continues to show that vaccines and boosters keep serious illness and hospitalizations low.

Source: American Medical Association



CAN I MIX AND MATCH THE COVID-19 VACCINE BOOSTER DOSES?




The answer is yes, you can receive a different brand of the COVID-19 booster than you had for the initial vaccination series.

All of the boosters will dramatically boost your antibody response, and mixing vaccines may enhance the immune response.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) is leading and funding a study in which adults have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and received different boosters of COVID-19 vaccines. Based on initial data from this study, the FDA has authorized the use of mixing and matching booster shots.

Sources: nih.gov & mayoclinichealthsystem.org

CHILDREN AGES 5-11 CAN NOW RECEIVE THE PFIZER COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOT



Why did the FDA give emergency use authorization for a booster dose of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children between 5-11 ?



While COVID-19 tends to be less severe in children than adults, the omicron wave has seen more kids getting sick and being hospitalized. Children may also experience longer term effects.

Is it safe for a 5-11 year old to get a booster shot?



The safety of a single booster dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine in this age group was assessed in 400 children who received a booster dose at least five months after completing a two-dose primary series. The most commonly reported side effects were pain, redness and swelling at the injection site, as well as fatigue, headache, muscle or joint pain and chills and fever.

★ REMINDER!

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS HAVE URGED AMERICANS TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH THEIR COVID-19 VACCINATIONS, INCLUDING ALL RECOMMENDED BOOSTER DOSES, AS THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM.

Will these booster shots be effective for this age range?



Studies found that the effectiveness of two doses of Pfizer's vaccine for children ages 5 to 12 dropped substantially during the Omicron surge, falling from 68% to about 12% against infection. However, two doses continued to provide protection against more severe illness resulting in urgent care or hospitalizations.

Sources: marketwatch.com & cnn.com

**SHIRLEY'S
SNIPPET**



TODAY'S LITTLE CHUCKLE

What do you call a pencil with 2 erasers?

Pointless!

