

COVID-19 VACCINE

MEDICAL EXEMPTION CONSIDERATIONS

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CONTRAINDICATIONS TO THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance states that only a history of the following are included among the contraindications to COVID-19 vaccines:

- Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous dose or to a component of the COVID-19 vaccine
- Immediate allergic reaction of any severity to a previous dose or known (diagnosed) allergy to a [component of the vaccine](#)

While the CDC does not list any other contraindications to the COVID-19 vaccine, vaccinators are encouraged to review additional CDC information for the [triage of people presenting for COVID-19 vaccination](#).

CONSIDERATIONS FOR VACCINATION OF PEOPLE WITH UNDERLYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS

According to the CDC, any currently FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine can be administered to people with underlying medical conditions who do not have the above contraindications. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the group of health experts who provide recommendations to the Federal government on how to use vaccines, does not state a preference for any of the approved products.

Clinicians counseling patients with underlying medical conditions should review the CDC's [discussion of clinical considerations](#), including timing and selection of vaccine products. Clinicians may find the CDC's [Summary Document for Interim Clinical Considerations](#) helpful in determining medical conditions that may warrant a deferral of vaccination for a period of time.

Providers are also encouraged to review New York State Department of Health (DOH) [guidance supporting vaccination for individuals who are pregnant, wish to be pregnant, or are lactating](#). According to DOH, pregnancy alone is not a valid health condition upon which to base a medical exemption.



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