

## Rare side effects

An uncommon side effect is swollen glands in the armpit or neck on the same side as the arm where your child had the vaccine. This can last for around 10 days, but if it lasts longer see your doctor.

Cases of inflammation of the heart (called myocarditis or pericarditis) have been reported rarely after the COVID-19 vaccines. Among children, the risk of myocarditis following vaccination decreases with decreasing age. No myocarditis events were reported to the US Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System after vaccination of over 1 million children aged 6 months to 5 years (as of 21 August 2022).<sup>1</sup>

You should seek medical advice urgently if your child experiences any of the following side effects after vaccination:

- symptoms of severe allergic reaction such as difficult breathing, wheezing or reduced level of consciousness
- shortness of breath or chest pain
- feelings of having a fast-beating, fluttering or pounding heart.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7135a3.htm>

## Rare side effects

You can report suspected side effects of vaccines and medicines through the Yellow Card Scheme at [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard), by using the Yellow Card app, or by calling **0800 731 6789**.

# What to expect after your child's COVID-19 vaccine

Information for parents and carers of children aged 6 months to 4 years at higher risk of COVID-19



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Email: [Vaccinations@gov.im](mailto:Vaccinations@gov.im)  
[www.gov.im/vaccinations](http://www.gov.im/vaccinations)

This leaflet tells you about the side effects your child may experience after the vaccine they were given today.

**Please read the patient information leaflet for more details on the type of vaccine your child was given.**

Please visit the Patient Information Leaflet at <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.14405.pdf>

This information is a guide only. If your child's side effects seem to get worse, or if you're concerned, call your **GP** or **health practitioner** for advice and tell them about your child's vaccination so that they can assess your child properly.

For the most up-to-date information visit or call:

 [www.gov.im/vaccinations](http://www.gov.im/vaccinations)

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## Common side effects

It's normal for your child to experience side effects after a vaccine. It shows the vaccine is teaching their body's immune system how to protect itself from COVID-19. Side effects are usually mild.

Your child might:



get a little redness, swelling or tenderness where the injection was given. This will go away on its own



appear to feel more tired



experience general aches or mild flu-like symptoms



have a fever, be a bit irritable or feel unwell.

**Side effects normally only last a day or two and should not last longer than a week.**

## Fever after the COVID-19 vaccine

It's quite common to develop a fever (temperature above 37.8°C) after a vaccination, but developing a fever is more common after the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The fever is a normal response to the vaccine.

Fevers are usually mild, so you only need to give a dose of infant paracetamol if your child is not comfortable or is unwell. Read the instructions on the product packaging and patient information leaflet very carefully and never give medicines that contain aspirin to children under 16 years of age.

If your child's fever starts more than 48 hours after the vaccine, lasts longer than 48 hours, or is above 39°C, your child may have another infection and you should seek medical advice. Call your GP or health care professional.

If you think your child may be seriously ill, trust your instincts and seek urgent medical advice.