

CostFree of Charge
(covered by public funds)**A Notice Regarding Booster Shots for the COVID-19 Vaccine****Getting vaccinated protects not only you, but those around you as well**

◎ **Eligible Residents:** Residents aged 18 or older who have had a second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine

◎ **Administered Vaccines:**

Regardless of which vaccine you have taken for your first and second dose, Pfizer or Takeda/Moderna vaccines will be administered. The dose for Pfizer will be the same amount used in the first and second doses, while Takeda/Moderna will be half the amount of its first and second doses.

◎ **The Necessity of the Third Dose:**

While the vaccine is highly effective for preventing infection, it has been indicated that its ability to prevent infection-- and for the elderly, its ability to prevent severe cases-- gradually falls with the passage of time. Due to this, when considering infection and severe case prevention, it is considered desirable to offer a booster shot to all individuals who have received initial doses (first and second doses).

The Safety and Effectiveness of the Third Dose**Safety**

Pfizer and Takeda/Moderna's pharmaceutical approval saw that although there is a slight difference in rate of occurrence, the side effects that occur within the first week after getting the third dose of either vaccine are roughly the same as the symptoms that occur after taking the first and second doses.

Effectiveness

There are less severe COVID-19 cases amongst those who have taken the third dose than there are amongst those who have not.

According to research information gathered in Israel after administering Pfizer's vaccine, it has been reported that booster shots are 93% effective in preventing hospitalization, 92% effective in preventing severe illness and 81% effective in preventing death.

Furthermore, it has been reported that in the case that an individual aged 60 years or older receives the booster shot, compared to someone who has not received it, they have a 1/11.3 chance of getting infected and a 1/19.5 chance of experiencing severe symptoms.

< **Effectiveness of the Third Dose** >

Hospitalization	93%	Severe Illness	92%	Death	81%
-----------------	-----	----------------	-----	-------	-----

◎ **Safety and Effectiveness when the Brand of the Third Dose is Different than the First and Second**

The UK conducted research using various vaccines for a third dose 12 or more weeks after taking the second dose and reported the results.

Safety

Safety: In terms of safety, the side effects that occur within seven days after taking a third dose are permissible, regardless if the brand of the third dose varies from the brand of the first and second dose.

Effectiveness

In the case that one takes the Pfizer vaccine for their first and second doses as well as their third dose, as well as in the case that they take the Takeda/Moderna vaccine* for their third dose, there is a sufficient increase in antibody value.

*: The third dose for Takeda/Moderna administers 50 µg doses, but these are the reported research results for 100 µg doses.

Vaccine Combinations			Antibody Value
Pfizer	→ Pfizer	→ Moderna	31.7x
Pfizer	→ Pfizer	→ Pfizer	20.0x

Source : Atmar RL, Lyke KE, Deming ME, et al. Heterologous SARS CoV 2 Booster Vaccinations: Preliminary Report.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I've heard that the side effects for the Takeda/Moderna vaccine are strong. Should I be concerned?

A. The third dose of the Takeda/Moderna vaccine will only use half of the amount of the first and second doses. It has been reported that compared to the second dose, post-vaccination symptoms such as fever or fatigue are less likely to occur.

Warning: It has been seen that the occurrence of lymphadenopathy is more common amongst those who have taken the third dose than those who have taken the second.

Source: Report pertaining to special provision authorization

Q. Is there a difference between the effectiveness of the Pfizer vaccine and the Takeda/Moderna vaccine?

A. In regards to the first and second dose, the second dose for both Pfizer and Takeda/Moderna maintain a high effectiveness against severe infection* even after six months have passed. An observational study that compared the effectiveness of the Pfizer and Takeda/Moderna vaccines for six months has reported that Takeda/Moderna is significantly more effective in preventing infection, outbreak of symptoms and severe illness.

*: prevention of severe illness also includes prevention of hospitalization

Source: Rosenberg ES, et al. medRxiv, 2021. / Self WH, et al. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2021. / Dickerman BA, et al. NEJM. December 1, 2021.

Q. What do I need to do in order to receive the third dose?

A. Please find the medical organization or vaccination site in which you took your first and second dose and make a reservation after the voucher for the third dose is delivered to you from the municipality in which you reside.



Q. I have not received the first or second dose yet. Can I still receive it?

A. Yes. The period in which you can receive it using public funds currently lasts until September 30th, 2022. If you receive it within this period, the first and second doses are free of charge. If you would like to receive the first and second doses, please do so at your earliest convenience.

◎It is necessary to have the patient's consent in order to receive the vaccine.

Please make judgements based on your own will and decide whether or not you will get vaccinated after receiving correct knowledge on both the vaccine's ability to prevent infection as well as its risk of side effects. The vaccine cannot be administered without the patient's consent.

We must not force individuals in our workplaces or others to get vaccinated or exhibit discriminatory behavior towards those who are not vaccinated.

◎There is a Vaccination Health Damage Relief System in place.

There are cases in which one incurs health damage (becoming ill or having remaining disorders) from getting vaccinated. Though it is extremely rare, due to being unable to get rid of those damages, there is a relief system provided for such cases.

For information regarding necessary procedures for applying, please consult with the municipality listed on your Certificate of Residence.

Please continue to follow disease prevention measures



Crowded Places



Close-contact Settings
Avoiding the Three C's



Closed Spaces



Wearing Masks



Washing Hands
with Soap



Disinfecting with
Alcohol

Please view the "COVID-19 Vaccine" section of the Ministry of Health and Labor's website for detailed information on the COVID-19 vaccine's effectiveness and safety.

厚労 コロナ ワクチン 検索

In the case that you are unable to view the website, please consult with the municipality in which you reside.

