

HENDERSON BROTHERS UPDATE

CDC Issues Update for Pregnant Individuals

August 2021

On August 11, 2021, the CDC announced it was strengthening its recommendation for pregnant individuals to get the COVID-19 vaccine as the agency strives to promote greater vaccination rates amid an increase in cases of the Delta variant. As reported by [AP News](#) regarding the CDC release, “Expectant women run a higher risk of severe illness and pregnancy complications from the coronavirus, including perhaps miscarriages and stillbirths. But their vaccination rates are low, with only about 23% having received at least one dose”.

The CDC recommendation for pregnant individuals comes in tandem with new guidance on the general safety of the COVID-19 vaccines:

- COVID-19 vaccination is recommended for all people 12 years and older, including people who are pregnant, breastfeeding, trying to get pregnant now or might become pregnant in the future.
- Evidence about the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy has been growing. This data suggests that the benefits of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine outweigh any known or potential risks of vaccination during pregnancy.
- No evidence currently suggests any vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause fertility problems in women or men.

The CDC says although the overall risk of severe illness is low, [pregnant and recently pregnant people](#) are at an increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19 compared to nonpregnant people. Severe illness includes conditions that require hospitalization, intensive care, or the need for a ventilator or special equipment to breathe; and illnesses that result in death. Additionally, pregnant people with COVID-19 are at increased risk of preterm birth and might be at increased risk of other adverse pregnancy outcomes compared to pregnant individuals without COVID-19.

According to the CDC, additional clinical trials that study the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnant people are underway or planned. Vaccine manufacturers are also collecting and reviewing data from people in the completed clinical trials who received a vaccine and became pregnant.

For specific questions about vaccines, individuals should talk to their health care provider. To learn more about COVID-19 vaccines, individuals can also review [guidance](#) from the CDC.

Although every effort has been made to provide complete and accurate information, Henderson Brothers, Inc. makes no warranties, express or implied, or representations as to the accuracy of content in this article. We assume no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions and the information presented should not be construed as legal advice. We suggest you consult with legal counsel before use.