



# COVID-19 vaccine and breastfeeding

**Breastfeeding women should consider receiving the vaccination to protect against COVID-19.**

**A Covid-19 vaccination program is underway using Comirnaty (a vaccine developed by Pfizer and BioNTech).**



**If you need help with breastfeeding call:  
Australia 1800 686 268 | New Zealand 0800 933 922**

**Australians who are breastfeeding can get the Pfizer and BioNTech (Comirnaty) vaccine 'at any time'. Breastfeeding women 'do not need to stop breastfeeding before or after vaccination'.**

*(Australian Government Department of Health)*

**New Zealand breastfeeding women can receive a Pfizer and BioNTech (Comirnaty) COVID-19 vaccine. There are no safety concerns for a woman who is breastfeeding or her child.**

*(New Zealand Ministry of Health)*

**It is important that women who are breastfeeding know that the Comirnaty vaccine does not contain a live virus. The World Health Organization states that it is 'unlikely to pose a risk' to a breastfeeding child.**

**Research shows that antibodies made by a mother's body after getting COVID-19 are available to her child via her breastmilk. Similar data for COVID vaccines are not available. It is likely that breastfeeding following COVID vaccination offers similar protection.**

**Links to further information:**

[www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-covid-19-vaccination-decision-guide-for-women-who-are-pregnant-breastfeeding-or-planning-pregnancy?fbclid=IwAR2qJPaz43eDYQ5hrJzdSv-z-gF4F3fB9iK0Z56kAdjmhzaXHQfiH\\_jiCoo](https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-vaccination-covid-19-vaccination-decision-guide-for-women-who-are-pregnant-breastfeeding-or-planning-pregnancy?fbclid=IwAR2qJPaz43eDYQ5hrJzdSv-z-gF4F3fB9iK0Z56kAdjmhzaXHQfiH_jiCoo)  
[www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-types-vaccines](https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-types-vaccines)  
[www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE-recommendation-BNT162b2-2021.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE-recommendation-BNT162b2-2021.1)  
[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7586930/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7586930/)  
[www.bfmed.org/abm-statement-considerations-for-covid-19-vaccination-in-lactation](https://www.bfmed.org/abm-statement-considerations-for-covid-19-vaccination-in-lactation)

**For more information visit: Australia | [breastfeeding.asn.au/bfinfo/covid-19](https://breastfeeding.asn.au/bfinfo/covid-19)  
New Zealand | [babyfriendly.org.nz/resource/finding-support/](https://babyfriendly.org.nz/resource/finding-support/)**



**Breastfeeding Helpline  
1800 mum 2 mum  
1800 686 268**



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