

# Have a chronic health condition? Don't wait to build protection.

Get your COVID-19 and flu vaccines now to help you stay healthier this season while enjoying life and annual traditions.



Photo posed by models. For illustrative purposes only.



## Updated flu and COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective and proven to help families stay healthy.

Those with pre-existing conditions like asthma, chronic lung disease and diabetes are at a much higher risk of getting really sick or dying from the flu<sup>1</sup> or COVID-19<sup>2</sup>. Getting vaccinated cuts that risk by one-third or more.

Vaccines are our best defense against viruses like the flu and COVID-19. Which is critical since the risk to American Indians of being hospitalized or dying from COVID-19 is double that of white, non-hispanic people.<sup>3</sup>

The updated vaccines have gone through extensive safety testing. The risk of needing medical care or dying is much higher from getting the disease than from the vaccines.



**Your health care provider is the best source for vaccine questions. Contact them directly.**

Most people can get vaccinated for little or no-cost at pharmacies, doctor's offices, community clinics and local health departments.

Go to [MySpot.nc.gov](https://www.myspot.nc.gov) to learn more about how to protect yourself and your family.

<sup>1</sup> CDC. (2024). Benefits of the Flu Vaccine. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu-vaccines-work/benefits/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> CDC. (2024). Covid Data Tracker. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccine-effectiveness>

<sup>3</sup> CDC. (2023). Risk for COVID-19 Infection, Hospitalization, and Death By Race/Ethnicity. <https://archive.cdc.gov/#/details?url=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/investigations-discovery/hospitalization-death-by-race-ethnicity.html>