

# Vaccinations Available!

Prevent cavities and viral infections in one visit: Ask your dental team how you can get a vaccine during your appointment.



## Sample patient message for new service:

**Subject:** *(name of practice)* now offering COVID-19 and flu vaccine shots

As of *(insert date)*, *(name of practice)* will be offering patients the convenience of receiving the COVID vaccine and/or flu shots in conjunction with their dental cleaning.

In 2021, dentists were instrumental in helping vaccinate the public against COVID-19, and California state law gave dentists permanent authority to administer the COVID-19 and flu vaccines. If you would like to get a vaccine during your next appointment, contact our office at *(insert e-mail or phone number)*. If you have a vaccine card, be sure to bring it to your appointment.

## Follow-up campaign

*(Patient reminder message)*

Reminder, *(name of practice)* is now offering COVID-19 and flu vaccines shots. Please contact the office to schedule your vaccine.

# Vaccinations and Your Total Health

Prevention is key to maintaining your health long term. Here are a few things you can do regularly to maintain your health:



BRUSH YOUR  
TEETH TWICE  
DAILY



VISIT YOUR  
DENTIST EVERY 6  
MONTHS



WASH YOUR  
HANDS



VISIT YOUR  
PRIMARY  
PHYSICIAN YEARLY



MAKE SURE YOU  
ARE UP TO DATE  
ON VACCINES

To schedule a vaccine appointment, visit [myturn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov)

## Answers to your common health questions

### For Kids

#### What are vaccines?

Vaccines train your immune system to create antibodies, just as it does when it's exposed to a disease. However, because vaccines contain only killed or weakened forms of germs like viruses or bacteria, they do not cause the disease or put you at risk of its complications.

#### How do the vaccines work?

##### Vaccines work by:

Recognizing the invading germ.

Producing antibodies. Antibodies are proteins produced naturally by the immune system to fight disease.

#### What will getting the vaccine feel like?

Like any medicine, vaccines can cause mild side effects, such as a low-grade fever, or pain or redness at the injection site. Mild reactions go away within a few days on their own.

### For Parents

#### What are the risks of a COVID-19 or flu vaccine?

Any licensed vaccine is rigorously tested across multiple phases of trials before it is approved for use and regularly reassessed once it is introduced.

Scientists are also constantly monitoring information from several sources for any sign that a vaccine may cause health risks. Remember, you are far more likely to be seriously injured by a vaccine-preventable disease than by a vaccine.

#### How does the COVID-19 vaccine work?

**The COVID-19 vaccine and booster reduce the risk of getting severe reactions to COVID-19 viral infections by working with the body's natural defenses to build protection. When you get the COVID-19 vaccine, your immune system responds by producing antibodies.**

People vaccinated against COVID-19 are likely to be less contagious than non-vaccinated people. This is because vaccinated people carry a viral load in their body that is overall lower than that of unvaccinated people; therefore, the virus cannot be transmitted as effectively.

Booster vaccines help your body stay ahead of the virus and protect against severe illness and hospitalization. Remembering the disease and how to fight it.