

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **San Joaquin County Public Health Services Offering Novavax**

**Stockton, CA (August 11, 2022):** San Joaquin County Public Health Services (PHS) has acquired the new Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, which will be made available at vaccination events hosted by PHS and San Joaquin Health Centers. The first administration of Novavax will take place on August 13, 2022 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Manteca WIC office on 283 Spreckles Avenue.

The Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine is the first [protein-based](#) adjuvanted COVID-19 vaccine authorized in the U.S. for adults ages 18 years and older. The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) [issued](#) an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the vaccine on July 13, 2022. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommended its use as a 2-dose primary series of vaccines on July 19, 2022.

According to Dr. Maggie Park, San Joaquin County Public Health Officer, Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine adds to our inventory of safe and effective vaccination options, and it offers an alternative for those who have contraindications to using mRNA vaccines. "By adding this option, we hope to reach residents who remain unvaccinated. Vaccination is a proven safeguard against severe illnesses, hospitalizations and deaths caused by COVID-19."

The Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine is given in two doses, administered intramuscularly 3 – 8 weeks apart. People who are [moderately or severely immunocompromised](#) should receive the 2 doses 3 weeks apart. The FDA has not approved a third dose or boosters for the vaccine primary series yet.

[Side effects](#) that happen within 7 days of getting vaccinated are common but are mostly mild and only last a few days. The most commonly reported side effects have been pain, tenderness, redness and swelling at the injection site, and muscle pain. Side effects throughout the body (such as fever, chills, tiredness, and headache) are more common after the second dose of the vaccine. [Severe allergic reactions](#), as well as cases of myocarditis and pericarditis, can occur with any of the COVID-19 vaccines but are rare.

### **How to Get the Novavax COVID-19 Vaccination?**

San Joaquin residents are encouraged to go to the [SJReady.org](https://www.sjready.org) website for the dates of more upcoming vaccine events where Novavax will be offered.

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## RESOURCES:

- [Novavax COVID-19, Adjuvanted Vaccine: Overview and Safety](#) (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [Possible Side Effects After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [Recommendations for the Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine Primary Series in Adults Ages 18 Years and Older](#) (U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- [FDA Briefing Document – Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (U.S. Food & Drug Administration)

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