

## IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:

### For questions unrelated to vaccine reservations

- For those unfamiliar with using Internet search;
- For those who have questions about COVID-19 vaccines;
- For those who want information on medical institutions capable of addressing symptoms of side effects; etc.

Kumamoto City COVID-19 Vaccine Call Center  
☎ **096-300-5577** (6 languages)

Hours: 8:30 - 19:00 (closed 12/29-1/3)

Services available in English, 中文, 한국어, Tiếng Việt, and Tagalog.

### For questions about the vaccines

MHLW COVID-19 Call Center  
☎ **0120-761-770** (in Japanese)  
For foreign language support: ☎ **0120-565-653** (6 languages)  
Hours: 9:00 - 21:00 (including Sat, Sun & holidays)

### For information on vaccine safety, effectiveness, and post-vaccination side effects

Kumamoto Prefecture COVID-19 Expert Hotline  
☎ **096-285-5622** (in Japanese)  
For foreign language support: ☎ **092-687-5144** (20 languages)  
Available 24 hours (including Sat, Sun & holidays)

## ONLINE INFORMATION

Visit the MHLW Official Website for more information on COVID-19 vaccines.

MHLW Official Website

MHLW COVID vaccine Search



Visit the Kumamoto City Official Website for the latest COVID-19 updates.

Kumamoto City Official Website

熊本市 新型コロナワクチン Search



See the Kumamoto City webpage for information on the vaccine for young children & babies.

Info on vaccine for young children & babies

熊本市 ワクチン 乳幼児 Search



### Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and have their consent in order to get vaccinated.

When making the decision to get vaccinated, we ask that you do so based on the wishes of the guardian, and with knowledge of the correct information regarding the benefits of the vaccine and the risk of side effects. Vaccinations are not given without the consent of a guardian.

Do not force others to get vaccinated or discriminate against unvaccinated people.

For Young Children & Babies

For Guardians of Children  
6 Months to 4 Years Old

3rd Edition

# COVID-19 Vaccination Guidebook for Young Children & Babies

Information in this guidebook is current as of August 23rd, 2023.  
Information written here may be updated or corrected via announcement from the national government, etc.  
Please check the city website, city newsletter, etc., regularly for new information.

## ELIGIBILITY

**Initial vaccination:** Children ages 6 months to 4 years old

**Booster:** All children who have received their initial vaccination for children ages 6 months to 4 years old  
(1st dose for vaccinations started in Fall 2023 after Oct. 2023, with at least 3 months elapsed since prior vaccination.)

The information in this guidebook is for children ages 6 months to 4 years old. For children ages 5 and older, please refer to the separate Initial Dose Guidebook and Booster Shot Handbook.

## RESERVATIONS

**Please make reservations directly with the vaccinating medical institution.**

See the List of Medical Institutions Offering Vaccines for Babies & Young Children:

熊本市 乳幼児 ワクチン接種実施医療機関一覧 Search



### NOTICE

COVID-19 vaccinations can be done simultaneously with an influenza vaccination, but administration of other non-influenza vaccines requires a buffer period of **two weeks before or after** receiving a COVID-19 vaccination.

## VACCINE TYPE

**Vaccine type** Pfizer vaccine for young children & babies (6 months to 4 years old) for Omicron variant (XBB.1.5)

**Vaccination frequency and interval**

Initial vaccination: A total of 3 vaccine doses will be given. The 2nd dose is normally given 3 weeks after the 1st, and the 3rd is given 8 weeks after the 2nd.

Booster: At least 3 months after completion of initial vaccination (1st through 3rd doses)

## FOR CHILDREN WHO WILL SOON TURN 5 YEARS OLD

### 1. Regarding the type of vaccine to be administered

**Initial vaccination:** Your child's age at the time of their 1st dose will determine which vaccine they receive, and they cannot switch to the other vaccine once they receive their 1st dose. Therefore, if your child turns 5 after their 1st dose, they will still receive the vaccine for young children & babies for their 2nd and 3rd doses. If your child turns 5 before their 1st dose, they will receive the vaccine for children ages 5-11.

**Booster:** Your child's age at the time of their booster vaccination will determine which vaccine they receive. Therefore, if your child turns 5 after their initial vaccination, they will receive the vaccine for children ages 5-11.

### 2. How age is determined

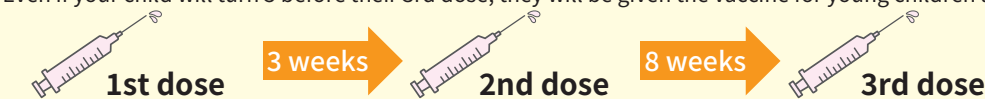
As far as the vaccine is concerned, children officially gain a year of age at midnight on the day prior to their birthday. This means a child **is considered to be 4 years old until midnight on the day before their 5th birthday.**

As for months of age, a child is considered 6 months old starting the day before the date exactly 6 months after their birth. If the day of the month the child was born on does not exist in the month that the child would turn 6 months old, the child shall be considered 6 months old on the last day of that month instead. For example, a child born on August 31st, 2022 would be considered 6 months old on February 28th, 2023.

### Vaccine for young children & babies (3 doses total)

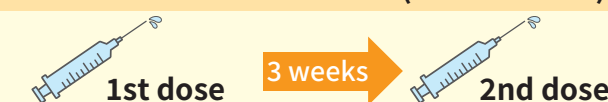
If 1st dose is received when your child is 4 years old

Even if your child will turn 5 before their 3rd dose, they will be given the vaccine for young children and babies.



If 1st dose is received when your child is 5 years old

### Vaccine for children 5 to 11 (2 doses total)

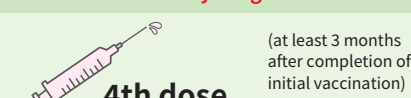


In this case, you will not use the 3rd set of stickers on your vaccine voucher. Please leave them as they are. (The Certificate of Vaccination on the right side is proof of vaccination.)



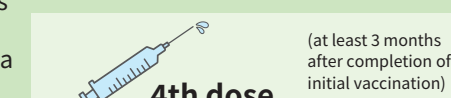
If your child is 4 years old when getting a booster

### 1 dose of vaccine for young children & babies



If your child is 5 years old when getting a booster

### 1 dose of vaccine for children 5-11



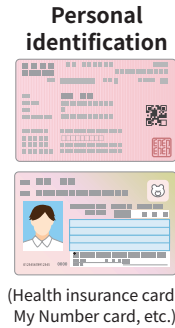
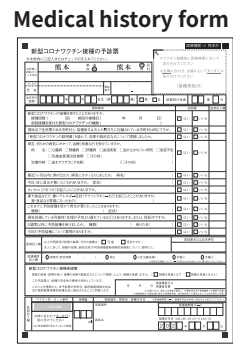
For more information on the vaccine for children used for the 1st dose when a child is 5 years old, visit the Kumamoto City webpage for the **Vaccine for Children (ages 5-11)**

熊本市 ワクチン 小児 Search



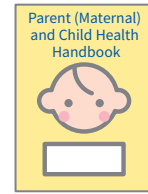
## DAY OF VACCINATION & POST-VACCINATION

Please don't forget to bring the following:



(Health insurance card, My Number card, etc.)

Parent (Maternal) and Child Health Handbook



Fill out the medical history form before going for your child's vaccination.  
Do not measure or fill in your child's body temperature until right before their vaccination.  
Make sure to fill in the correct dates and vaccine types for previous COVID-19 vaccinations and/or other vaccinations.  
To check on vaccinations within the past two weeks, please refer to your Maternal and Child Health Handbook.

**Check your child's temperature before leaving home.** If your child has a fever or feels unwell, refrain from getting your child vaccinated and contact the medical institution where you made your reservation.

**Monitor your child's condition at the facility for at least 15 minutes\* after receiving the vaccine.**

\*Those susceptible to severe allergic reactions including anaphylaxis, or those who have ever fainted or felt ill after an injection should wait for about 30 minutes.

Things to avoid on day of vaccination

- Normal activities are OK but avoid strenuous exercise.
- Keep the injection site clean. You may bathe on the day of vaccination, but please refrain from scratching at/rubbing the injection site.

Visit the MHLW website for instructions for each type of vaccine.

MHLW COVID-19 vaccine instructions

Search



## CERTIFICATE OF VACCINATION

Applications are available via government app, online, in-person, and by mail. See the Kumamoto City website for details.

熊本市 ワクチン接種証明

Search



## VACCINATIONS ARE NOT MANDATORY

COVID-19 vaccinations are only provided at the request of the recipient or guardian. Before deciding whether to be vaccinated, please understand the prevention from serious illness the vaccines provide as well as the risk of side effects.

**Do not coerce coworkers, students, or those around you to get vaccinated, discriminate against unvaccinated people, etc.**

### Comment from the Kumamoto City and Kamoto Medical Associations:

Although the COVID-19 vaccine for young children & babies reduces the risk of severe symptoms, thought must also be given to post-vaccination side effects. We ask that guardians decide whether to vaccinate their children after sufficiently understanding the merits and demerits of being vaccinated. Please contact your family doctor or vaccinating medical institution if you have any questions.

## SIDE EFFECTS

### On vaccination day

### Possible symptoms immediately after vaccination:

#### Anaphylactic shock

- Anaphylactic shock is a severe allergic reaction that can occur a short time after certain medicines or foods enter the body.
- Symptoms include a sudden onset of hives, stomach pain, vomiting, and difficulty breathing, along with a loss of consciousness (becoming unresponsive).
- While anaphylactic shock is rare, medical centers are equipped to respond immediately.

#### Vasovagal syncope

- Pain and stress related to vaccination can cause dizziness, paleness, and fainting.
- Anyone can experience such symptoms, and they usually dissipate after resting for a while.
- Have your child sit in a chair with a sturdy backrest or hold your child to prevent falling and injury.



### Post-vaccination

### Possible symptoms during days following your vaccination:

After receiving a COVID-19 vaccination, you may experience a variety of symptoms as your body develops immunity against the COVID-19 virus (pain around injection site, fever, fatigue, headache, muscle/joint pain, chills, diarrhea, etc.). Most of these symptoms peak on the day following a vaccination and disappear within a few days.

Visit the MHLW website for more details on side effects:

MHLW COVID-19 vaccine side effects

Search



## RELIEF PROGRAM

Vaccines can cause health problems (illness or disability) as a result of side effects. Although this is extremely rare, there is still a risk, and so a relief system has been established for this reason. In the case of health damage due to the COVID-19 vaccine, relief (medical expenses, disability pension benefits, etc.) is also available under the Immunization Act.\*

Please consult the Kumamoto City Disease Control & Prevention Section (096-364-3189) for application procedures.

\*If the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare determines such health damage was a result of the vaccine, you will receive a payment from Kumamoto City. (An investigation will be performed by the Illness/ Disability Qualification Review Committee [composed of vaccine, infectious disease, medical and legal experts] in order for the MHLW to make such determination.)

Visit the MHLW homepage for more detailed info:

MHLW COVID vaccine relief system

Search

