



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
**PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY**

---

**Date:** August 18, 2022

**Contact:** Agustin Munoz, PHN, amunoz@co.slo.ca.us, 805-781-5500

## **Novavax COVID-19 Vaccines Now Available**

The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine has received emergency use authorization from the U.S. FDA and recommendation from the U.S. CDC. Novavax is now **available by appointment** at County of SLO Public Health Department clinics in Grover Beach, Paso Robles, and San Luis Obispo. To schedule a vaccine appointment, patients can call **805-781-5500**.

### **Novavax is the first COVID-19 vaccine using protein-based technology**

Novavax is a more traditional protein subunit vaccine, similar to vaccines for influenza, pertussis, hepatitis B, and shingles. Novavax contains an adjuvanted SARS-CoV-2 spike protein to boost its effectiveness against COVID-19. Novavax provides a new option for those who have not yet been vaccinated against COVID-19.

### **Efficacy and safety data (clinical trial)**

Data from the Novavax clinical trial (note that the trial occurred before the Delta and Omicron strains) show that Novavax is more than 90% effective at protecting against symptomatic COVID-19, and 100% effective against severe illness and death.

Common side effects include soreness at the injection site, fatigue, muscle pain, and headaches. Data show there were six cases of myocarditis from a clinical trial of about 30,000 people, primarily among young men. All six were treatable and the individuals recovered well. The risk of developing myocarditis from COVID-19 remains higher than the risk of developing it from a COVID-19 vaccine, including Novavax.

### **Quick Facts**

- The COVID-19 Novavax vaccine is a two-dose primary series (3–8 weeks apart) for adults ages 18 and older.
- It is a **protein subunit** vaccine (common technology used to develop previous vaccines). Unlike Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, it does not use mRNA technology.
- Novavax may appeal to individuals not yet vaccinated against COVID-19. Note that some may have a personal preference for Novavax over the mRNA vaccines.
- Novavax has not been authorized as a booster dose and should not be administered as a booster dose at this time.
- Novavax has already been authorized in more than 40 countries and has been granted emergency authorization from the European Union and the World Health Organization.

**For more information about COVID-19,** visit: [slopublichealth.org/covid19](https://www.slopublichealth.org/covid19)

---

#### **Public Health Department**

2191 Johnson Avenue | San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 | (P) 805-781-5500 | (F) 805-781-5543

[www.slopublichealth.org](https://www.slopublichealth.org)