



# Coronavirus Vaccine: Do I need a third dose?

SARS CoV - 2 Coronavirus has been troubling us since December 2019.

In June 2021, we are gradually getting to understand this virus better, to understand the variants that have developed, and understand the steps we need to take, to protect ourselves.

This is Epidemiology!

Most coronavirus vaccines, available today, require two doses duly spaced, to provide protective immunity, from severe disease.

The vaccine itself in its many forms has been around for barely six months now. Scientists do not have enough evidence through follow-up studies, to know whether we need a third dose or not.



## Take the vaccine anyway, as the benefits outweigh potential risks



In due course of time, as more evidence accumulates globally, scientists will be able to determine whether a third dose is needed or not.

As of June 2021, there is enough evidence to suggest that adequate protection is provided by even one dose of a vaccine, with the second dose boosting the immune response, hence for optimal benefit, two doses are recommended at present. However, what is not known, is how long will this immunity last.

Going ahead, with the passage of time, information will be collated about waning of the immune response, and population level studies will reveal whether there actually is any necessity to take a third dose or not.

**Till we know more, take the two doses of the available vaccines at the prescribed gap, and continue to practice COVID Appropriate Behaviour.**

**It is your behaviour that keeps you safe, and not just the vaccine.**

**COVID Appropriate Behaviour + Vaccine**

is the most effective weapon against coronavirus and all variants.

