

Why should we vaccinate children?

Some children get very sick from coronavirus. COVID-19 is a leading cause of death in children. It is #1 in deaths caused by infections/respiratory diseases. Thousands of children have been hospitalized for COVID-19.

Most children don't become as sick as adults, **but they can still spread the virus.** COVID-19 vaccines prevent grandparents, younger siblings, and others from severe disease, hospitalization, and death.

Getting kids vaccinated helps **prevent outbreaks that cause school closures.**

Is the vaccine safe for children?

As of May 2023, over 32% of children in the US 5-11, and 59% of children 12-17 have received their primary series.

Many children have also received an updated bivalent dose.

Risks from COVID-19 greatly outweigh any potential risks from the vaccine.

How do we keep children under six months old safe?

Currently, there is not an approved COVID-19 vaccine for children under 6 months old. But you can protect children from being infected and spreading the virus to others.

- + Ensure all household members aged 6+ months are vaccinated.
- + Breastfeeding moms can get vaccinated to help pass antibodies to their baby.
- + Encourage **indoor mask wearing** and **social distancing** especially among the unvaccinated.
- + Wash hands.

HOW CAN I GET MY CHILD A COVID-19 VACCINE?

- ✓ **Contact your local health department to make an appointment** or ask them where mobile vaccine clinics are located.
- ✓ **Contact your local community health center to make an appointment.**
- ✓ **Ask your child's pediatrician** if they offer COVID-19 vaccines.
- ✓ **Check with your local pharmacy.** They will likely offer vaccines.
- ✓ **Speak with your child's school** about getting a COVID-19 vaccine. They may offer in-school vaccine clinics.
- ✓ In some places, parents are required to be present when their child is vaccinated. Look for after-hour and pop-up clinics to make it easier for working parents.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>



For answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit **Migrant Clinicians Network (MCN):**

<https://bit.ly/3ki1xAl>



Children and the COVID-19 Vaccine

- ✓ **GET VACCINATED!**
- ✓ **Wear a mask**
- ✓ **Social distancing**
- ✓ **Wash your hands**

COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Campaign

Updated: July 25, 2023



COVID-19 VACCINES FOR CHILDREN

- **Children 6 mos. to 4 yrs:** 3 doses of Pfizer vaccine or 2 doses of Moderna vaccine.
- **Children 5 yrs:** 1 dose of Pfizer vaccine or 2 doses of Moderna vaccine.
- **6-17:** 1 dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.
- **Note:** These recommendations are for the bivalent/updated vaccines. If your child has received any doses of the monovalent/original vaccines, ask your child's healthcare provider about how many doses of the updated vaccines are needed.
- **Immunocompromised children:** Ask child's healthcare provider for dose recommendations.
- **Spacing between doses varies, by age:** Ask child's healthcare provider. Visit the CDC's page for spacing: www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN

- + Get vaccinated and get your children who are 6 months and older vaccinated.
- + Wear a mask in crowded indoor spaces even when you are up to date on your vaccines.
- + **If your child is up to date on their vaccines and are exposed to COVID-19:**
 - If they have symptoms: Test immediately. If they have a negative test, test again in 48 hours.
 - If they do not have symptoms: Test at least 5 days after exposure. If they have a negative test, test again after 48 hours, and then again after another 48 hours if their second results are negative. Get medical advice if you think they are ill.
- + Regardless of vaccination status, if your child has COVID-19, they must isolate. See CDC guidelines for how to isolate.

Recommendations:

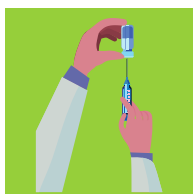
- + For women of any age who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or trying to get pregnant, vaccines are critical for keeping moms and their babies healthy.



WHAT TO KNOW WHEN CHILDREN ARE GETTING THE COVID-19 VACCINE



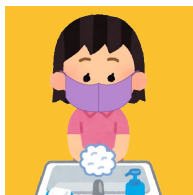
It is important for children to get vaccinated, even if they've had COVID-19.



The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective for children.



They feel better a few days after the injection.



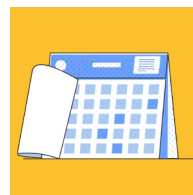
Continue to wear a mask in crowded spaces and wash your hands.



Check if vaccines are offered for free at your state or local health department or pharmacy.



After vaccination kids may experience: arm pain, headache, fever, or chills.



Kids are considered up to date once they receive their final dose or doses.



Getting vaccinated helps protect kids and others from getting very sick from COVID-19!



BENEFITS OF VACCINATION

- ✓ Vaccination protects children and their families from becoming seriously ill and being hospitalized.
- ✓ Vaccination decreases the number of severe and deadly COVID-19 cases in your community.
- ✓ Vaccination protects hospitals and clinicians from being overwhelmed with severely ill COVID-19 patients.
- ✓ The more vaccinated individuals in our community, the less we need to worry about new variants.

RISKS FOR UNVACCINATED

- ✗ Higher risk of COVID-19 infection.
- ✗ Higher risk of serious infection, hospitalization, and death.
- ✗ Higher risk of developing long-term symptoms of COVID-19 if infected.
- ✗ Higher risk of being exposed to new forms of the virus that are more contagious and dangerous.