## 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. Most were not vaccinated. About 1/3 had no preexisting condition like diabetes or obesity.

Most children don't become as sick as adults, **but they can still spread it.** 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 June 2022, 8.5 million children under 12 have been fully vaccinated in the US (that is 30% of that population in the US). Nearly 60% of children 12-17 are fully vaccinated. Not one child has died due to the vaccine.

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 masking 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: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html





For answers to Frequently Asked Questions, visit **Migrant Clinicians Network** (MCN): https://bit.ly/3ki1xAl





**Updated:** July 11, 2022



# Children and the COVID-19 Vaccine

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

**COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Campaign** 



# COVID-19 VACCINES FOR CHILDREN

- Children 6 mos. to 4 yrs: 3 doses for Pfizer, 2 doses for Moderna. No booster at this time.\*
- Children 5+: 2 doses. Pfizer, 1 booster.\*
- Immunocompromised children:5-11: 3 doses, plus one booster.12-17: 3 doses plus 2 boosters.
- Spacing between doses varies, but for boys 12-17: 2 doses, 8 weeks apart.\*\* Visit the CDC's page for spacing: https://bit.ly/3zcBgwT
- \*Moderna's booster for both age groups is expected soon.
- \*\* The CDC recommends this altered schedule to reduce the very small risk of myocarditis among adolescent boys.

# HOW TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN

- + Get vaccinated and get your children who are 6 months and older vaccinated.
- + Wear a mask when indoors even when you are up to date on your vaccines.
- + If your child is up to date on their vaccination and is exposed to COVID-19, the child does not need to quarantine. Get them tested 5-7 days after exposure.



# For women:

- + For women of any age who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or trying to get pregnant, vaccines are critical for keeping moms and their babies healthy.
- + For adults and teens between 18-60 years old, we recommend getting Pfizer or Moderna.

# WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER CHILDREN ARE VACCINATED?



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



It is completely FREE and does NOT require any form of identification.



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



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



They feel better a few days after the injection.



Kids are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their final dose.



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



Getting vaccinated helps protects 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.
- Children can return to normal activities sooner if more people get vaccinated.

#### **RISKS FOR UNVACCINATED**

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