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Adult Boosters & Vaccines for Kids: What You Need to Know



Mission

Connect people to the care, support and opportunities that maximize their quality of life.

Vision

A community where all people lead fulfilling lives.

Core Values

People, Integrity, and Trust



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Agenda



Covid-19 Risk for Children



Adult and Pediatric Covid-19 Vaccine and Booster Details



Covid-19 risks for children with developmental disabilities



Where you can get a vaccination



Meet The Presenter



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Covid-19 Vaccinations and Children with I/DD



Current Vaccines Available for Adults (over age 12)

Manufacturer: Pfizer BioNTech

- 2 injections, 21 days apart

Manufacturer: Moderna

- 2 injections, 28 days apart

Manufacturer: Johnson & Johnson

- 1 injection



COVID-19 Booster Shots

Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson have released Boosters for Adults

- As of November 19, 2021 The CDC recommends all adults over the age of 18 receive a booster shot to be considered fully vaccinated
- If you received a Pfizer or Moderna vaccination, a booster should be given at least 6 months after completion of the second shot
- If you received a Johnson & Johnson vaccination, a booster should be given at least 2 months after
- Any approved brand of booster vaccine can be administered – it is not dependent on the brand received for the initial series



CHILDREN, COVID and VACCINES



The Covid Vaccine for Children is Here!

- Children ages 5-11 are now eligible to receive the vaccination
- An advisory committee of the CDC endorsed the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine for kids between 5-11 unanimously.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) granted an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the vaccine concluding that its benefits outweigh the risks in kids during the pandemic.
- The FDA oversees studies to determine whether a vaccine is safe and effective, and the CDC decides on policy, and who would benefit from the vaccine and should get vaccinated.





COVID-19's Risk for Kids



Children and COVID Risk

- As of **10-28-21**, an estimated 6.4 million American children tested positive for Covid, representing 16.6% of all cases (AAP)
- 8,300 Children have been hospitalized with COVID
- As of **12-2-21**, over 600 Children in the 0-17 age group have died from Covid-19 complications
- Covid-19 is the #6 leading cause of death for children
- More than 5,200 children and teens developed MIS-C (Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children- affecting the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes and GI system) that often leads to ICU admission. The median age is 9 years



Covid-19 Risk For Children, Continued

- It is hard to predict which kids will develop severe COVID or MIS-C. 30% of kids hospitalized had no underlying health conditions
- Black, Native American, and Hispanic children were 3 times more likely to be hospitalized than White children (CDC)
- While severe illness and death from COVID-19 is far less likely in children than adults, it does happen
- With vaccination, such tragedies are much less likely
 - Unvaccinated teens are hospitalized at 10 x the rate of vaccinated



Covid-19 Risk for Children, Continued

- The American Academy Of Pediatrics recommends all children ages 5-11 get vaccinated
- Pediatricians urge patients not to wait
 - “You cannot predict in a normal healthy child who is going to get very sick and who is not. Vaccinating is the best way to protect your child against severe covid illness.”
- A young child being vaccinated can also decrease the chances of their transmitting disease to more vulnerable family members
- Transmission increases the chances that the virus will mutate and acquire dangerous properties



COVID VACCINE FOR CHILDREN



How do vaccines work?

- A vaccine trains the immune system to recognize and fight viruses or bacteria
- To do this, certain molecules from the virus or bacteria must be introduced into the body to create an immune response (these molecules are called *antigens*)
- The immune system can safely learn to recognize the antigens as hostile invaders and produce antibodies which fight them and remember them for the future
- If the virus or bacteria reappears, the immune system will recognize the antigen immediately and attack it



How is the children's vaccine different?

- Children are smaller and their immune systems function differently (BETTER)
- It is given at a lower dose than the adult version (1/3 of adult dose)
- Smaller needles specifically designed for children's comfort
- It is a 2-dose vaccine protocol with children receiving their second shot 3 weeks after the first
- Children are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after they receive the second dose
- An estimated 4.3 million, or 15 %, of children ages 5-11 have received 1 dose of the Covid Vaccine as of 12/2/21



Down Syndrome: Special Considerations

- More likely to have lung infections
- Higher risk of having many health problems linked to severe Covid symptoms
- These include heart disease, sleep apnea, obesity, and diabetes



Herd Immunity

- Vaccines don't just work on an individual level, they protect entire populations
- Once enough people are immunized, opportunities for an outbreak of disease become so low even people who are not immunized benefit.
- Bacteria or viruses will eventually die out entirely
- Herd Immunity has allowed once devastating diseases to be eliminated entirely without needing to vaccinate every individual



Vaccine Contraindications

- The children's vaccine is not recommended for people who are *severely allergic* to any vaccine ingredient or who had an allergic reaction to the first dose
- The only ingredient in the vaccine found to elicit allergic reaction is polyethylene glycol. This is the main ingredient in Miralax (used for constipation)
- If your child has had no issues with Miralax, it is highly unlikely that your child will have an allergic reaction to the vaccine



VACCINE FAQs



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Can children with health issues receive the children's vaccine?

Answer:

YES. None of the following are contraindications for the vaccine:

Cancer, Diabetes, Congenital Heart Problems, Immune Problems, Hemophilia, Seizures, Developmental Delays, Intellectual Delays, Cerebral Palsy, Hearing Loss

- Each of these conditions increase the risk of severe disease from Covid-19, which *strengthens* the recommendation for vaccination.



Is Developmental Disability a Risk Factor?

Answer:

- A study of >64 million US patients of all ages by the NIH showed prevalence of Covid-19 was >4 times higher among people with ID/DD
- Among people with Covid, those with ASD, ID, LD, ADHD and other DD had a 3- to 9-times higher likelihood of hospitalization than those without these conditions and longer hospital stays



Are the vaccines safe since they were developed so quickly?

Answer:

- Yes. These are the most highly scrutinized vaccines in history
- Substantial funding allowed multiple trials to be run parallel and for companies to begin manufacturing vaccines early, enabling the immediate distribution upon approval
- Tens of thousands of clinical trial participants received vaccines safely
- About 197.8 million people, or 59.6% of the total U.S. population, have been fully vaccinated as of 12/2/21



Will any of the Covid-19 vaccines give me Covid?

Answer

- No. None of the vaccines contain a live (corona) virus and thus does not carry the risk of causing disease to the vaccinated person



Questions And Answers

- Will any of the Covid-19 vaccines alter a person's DNA?

Answer: NO. The way vaccines work will not affect or interact with your DNA in any way

- Do we know how long the vaccine offers protection against Covid-19?

Answer: NO. Further studies are on-going

- Can the Covid-19 vaccination be administered with other vaccinations?

Answer: Yes. This includes simultaneous administration of Covid-19 vaccines and other vaccines on the same day, as well as co-administration within 14 days



Questions and Answers, continued

- After getting the Covid-19 vaccine, will I test positive for Covid on a viral test?

Answer: NO. None of the recommended Covid-19 vaccines cause you to test positive on viral tests, which are used to see if you have CURRENT infection. If your body develops and immune response to vaccination, which is the goal, you may test positive on some antibody tests (which indicate previous infection and some level of protection)

- If I have already had Covid, should I still get the Covid-19 vaccine?

Answer: Yes. It is not known how long natural immunity (immunity due to an infection) lasts as reinfections can occur



Where can my child get vaccinated?

- Vaccines are free of charge to all people living in the United States, regardless of immigration or health insurance status
- CDC's Vaccine Finder Tool: [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)
- You can text your zip code to 43829 and vaccine locations will be sent to you
- National Covid-19 Vaccine Hotline 1-800-232-0233 for help finding locations near you
- Many pediatrician offices are offering the vaccine
- Pharmacies such as Walgreen's and Rite Aid provide the vaccine for 5-11-year-olds (www.walgreens.com/www.riteaid.com to schedule)



How can your care coordinator help?

- Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns related to Covid-19 and/or the vaccination
- Your care coordinator can assist you with vaccination locations, appointments, and arranging transportation if needed



Summary

- Speak with your healthcare provider or specialist about the vaccine if you have additional questions or concerns
- In addition to the vaccination, we need to continue to use all the tools available to keep everyone safe
 - Wear a mask
 - Wash your hands
 - Maintain social distancing when indicated based on NYC DOH guidelines
- How can we help?
- Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns related to Covid-19 and/or the vaccination
- Your care coordinator can assist you with vaccination locations, appointments, and arranging transportation if needed



Resources

- Covid-19 and Children with Developmental Disabilities- Let's Talk. Lisa Schulman, MD. Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician. Presentation date 11/17/21.
- New York City Department of Health- www1.nyc.gov
- New York State Department of Health- www.healthy.ny.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention- www.cdc.gov
- [COVID-19 Vaccination for Children 5-11 Years Old | CDC](#)
- [peds.2021-053190.full.pdf \(aappublications.org\)](#)
- [Talking to Patients with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities about COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens | CDC](#)
- [School Report \(ny.gov\)](#)



QUESTIONS?

