COVID-19 Vaccine for Children and Teens

CDC recommends vaccination for everyone 12 years and older to help protect against COVID-19.

Why does my child need a COVID-19 vaccine?

COVID-19 vaccines help protect kids from getting COVID-19. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine will also help keep them from getting seriously ill even if they do get COVID-19.

When should my child be vaccinated?

All children who are 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccine. If your child hasn't gotten their vaccine yet, talk to their doctor about getting it as soon as possible.

Are COVID-19 vaccines safe for my child?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination provides safe and effective protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines have been used under the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is now available for everyone ages 12 years and older. In the clinical trial for children 12 through 15 years old, no safety concerns were identified with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

All authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines:

- are safe,
- are effective
- help protect from severe illness

The clinical trial also showed that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 with symptoms in children 12 through 15 years old. In addition, children's immune systems responded to the vaccine in a way similar to that of older teens and young adults. To get the most protection, your child will need 2 shots given 3 weeks (21 days) apart.

Before, during and after your child's vaccination

- Tell the doctor or nurse about any allergies your child may have.
- Comfort your child during the appointment.
- To prevent fainting and injuries related to fainting, your child should be seated or lying down during vaccination and for 15 minutes after the vaccine is given.
- After your child's COVID-19 vaccination, you will be asked to stay for 15-30 minutes so your child can be observed in the

Can my child get a COVID-19 vaccine during the same visit with other vaccines?

Yes. Your child can get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines at the same visit. Experience with other vaccines has shown that the way our bodies develop protection after getting vaccinated (immune response) and possible side effects of vaccines are generally the same when given alone or with other vaccines. Talk with your healthcare provider to learn more.

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines
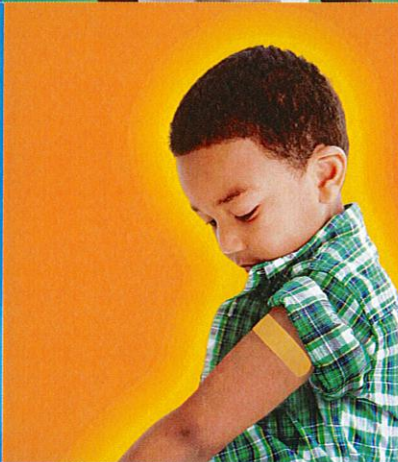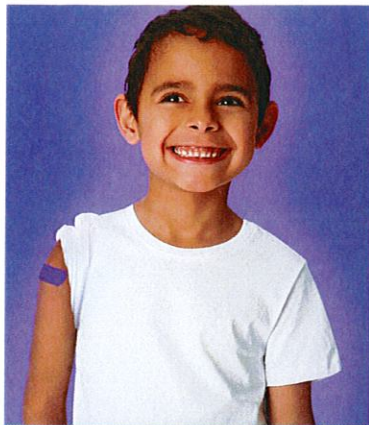
CATCH UP ON CHECKUPS AND ROUTINE VACCINES

As opportunities for in-person learning and play grow, it's important for your child to catch up on checkups and recommended vaccines to protect their health now and in the future.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends children continue to see their doctor for regular checkups and routinely recommended vaccinations, even during COVID-19.

WELL-CHILD CHECKUPS ARE ESSENTIAL

- The doctor **tracks your child's growth and development**
- You can **ask the doctor questions** about your child's health
- Your child **gets recommended vaccinations**

VACCINATION HELPS PROTECT YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH

- Routine vaccinations during childhood **help prevent 14 diseases**
- Among children born from 1994–2018, vaccinations will prevent an estimated **936,000 early deaths, 8 million hospitalizations, and 419 million illnesses**

Doctors can safely see your child, even during the pandemic.

Talk with your child's doctor about staying up to date on regular checkups and routinely recommended vaccinations.

www.cdc.gov/vaccines/routine

CDC