COVID-19 Vaccines
What Parents Need to Know

Ages 5-11
1/3 DOSE

Ages 12 & up
FULL DOSE

CAN MY CHILD GET A COVID VACCINE?

Children age 5 and older can now get a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

- Adolescents 12 and older get the same vaccine as adults.
- Children ages 5-11 get a version that is a smaller dose. It is given with a smaller needle made for children.
- Both versions of the vaccines are given as **2 doses 21 days apart**. They can be given at the same time as other vaccines.
- Vaccines are **free** for everyone. You don't need insurance and you will not be asked about your immigration status.

SHOULD I GET MY CHILD VACCINATED FOR COVID-19?

- Vaccinating your child(ren) is the **best way to protect them** from getting COVID-19. Even though COVID-19 is milder in children, some get very sick or have lasting health problems after infection.
- Children can spread the virus to others. Vaccinating your child can help **protect family and friends**. This includes people who are too young to be vaccinated and those who are at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.
- Vaccinating your child can help keep them in school and make it safer for them to take part in group activities. If your child is fully vaccinated, they won't need to test to play sports. And they won't need to quarantine if they have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19.

WHERE CAN I GET MY CHILD VACCINATED?

COVID vaccines are available at many doctors' offices, clinics, schools, & pharmacies. Visit **VaccinateLACounty.com** to find a site near you. Make sure they have the right Pfizer vaccine for your child's age and ask how **parent consent** should be given.

Call the DPH Vaccine Call Center at **833-540-0473** 8am to 8:30pm if you need help finding a vaccine, transportation, or in-home vaccination. Information is available in many languages 24/7 by calling 2-1-1.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health

11-8-21

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WHAT ARE THE VACCINE SIDE EFFECTS?

- Common side effects include pain, swelling, or redness in the arm where the vaccine was given, feeling tired, headache, muscle ache, nausea, fever or chills. These side-effects are a sign that your child's immune system is **building protection**.

- Side-effects may affect your child's ability to do some daily activities but should go away within a few days.

ARE COVID VACCINES SAFE FOR CHILDREN?

- Yes. COVID-19 vaccines have gone through the most **intensive safety monitoring** in US history. The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has been rigorously tested and is safe and effective for adults and children. More than 11 million 12-17 year olds have already safely received the vaccine.

- Serious health events are **rare**.

  - A small number of people have had inflammation of the heart (myocarditis and pericarditis) after getting a Pfizer vaccine. This is more common in male adolescents and young adults. Most cases are mild and respond well to treatment and rest.

  - Severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) can happen after any vaccine but is rare. Everyone is observed after getting a COVID-19 vaccine. If a reaction does happen, it is treated right away.

- Your child **cannot get COVID-19** from any COVID-19 vaccine.

- There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines affects development or fertility.

BEFORE YOUR CHILD GETS VACCINATED

- **Talk to your child** about the vaccine, possible side effects, and what to expect.

- Do not give pain relievers before their vaccine to try to prevent side effects.

- Tell the vaccination site if your child has any allergies.

For more details see the **COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs for Parents** at **VaccinateLACounty.com.**

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