Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ

1. Is the vaccine safe?

Yes, the vaccine is safe. The COVID-19 vaccine has gone through extensive clinical trials consisting of more then 3,000 children age 5 through 11 and has shown to have no serious side effects. It has also been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

2. How effective is the vaccine?

Studies show the vaccine is 90% effective in preventing COVID-19 in children 5 through 11.

3. What dosage will my child receive?

The vaccine is a two-dose series taken three weeks apart. The dose given to 5- to 11-year-old children is one-third of the dose of the adolescent/adult vaccine.

4. What are the possible side effects?

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Children ages 12 through 15 given the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine had side effects like those experienced by people age 16 and older. The most reported side effects include:

- Pain where the shot was given
- ChillsMuscle pain
- Fatigue
- Fever
- Headache
- Joint pain

Like adults, children have side effects that typically last 1 to 3 days.

After your child is given a COVID-19 vaccine, he or she will be monitored for 15 to 30 minutes to see if he or she has an allergic reaction that requires treatment.

5. What if my child has underlying issues or preexisting conditions?

It's always best to talk with your child's physician to ensure you can make an informed decision for your family.

Make a plan to get your children vaccinated. Find a vaccine location here: vaccines.gov.

For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine, visit **coronavirus.dc.gov/vaccine**



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