

Pfizer Emergency Use Authorization for 5-11 Guide

On October 29, 2021 Pfizer and BioNTech received the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the Food and Drug Administration for their COVID-19 vaccine in 5-11 year olds and the Centers for Disease Control Director has confirmed its use.

- While this is a major milestone in our vaccine equity work, only a little over 25% of parents indicated they would vaccinate their kids 5-11 “right away.” As of November 15th, over [3.64 million](#) children under age 12 have received a single dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. (Source: CDC)
- After rigorous testing and review, the FDA has authorized the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for kids ages 5-11 and the CDC has recommended its use. Based on the overwhelming results of the trial, the FDA and CDC have declared that the vaccine is safe and effective.
- To date, after hundreds of millions of doses given to adults and teenagers, the Pfizer vaccine has shown [no cases of long-term side effects](#). We know it’s safe and effective for adults – and we can take comfort knowing it will be for kids, too. (Source: CDC)

Frequently Asked Questions

- [How and where do I get my child vaccinated?](#)
 - The vaccine will be available at many pediatrician and family practice clinics, local health departments, community health centers, pharmacies, school-based health centers. Some areas may have availability in Rural Health Clinics, Native Hawaiian Health Centers, and Federally Qualified Health Centers. Some schools may also have vaccines available for families. We encourage everyone to remain patient as providers set up systems to handle the influx of interest. Check with your usual medical provider, [Vaccines.gov](#), local health department to see where you can go.
- [What’s the difference between vaccines for children versus adults?](#)
 - The vaccine for children ages 5-11 is one third of the dose given to teenagers and adults. The dose was chosen to balance safety and effectiveness for the immune system of a child ages 5 to 11. The vaccine is not dosed by weight, but by the age of the immune system. ([Source: CDC](#))

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- Will the COVID-19 vaccine affect my child's fertility?
 - No. There is [no evidence](#) that fertility problems are a side effect of any vaccine, including COVID-19 vaccines. The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (fertility specialists) both strongly recommend that people get the COVID-19 vaccine. ([Source ACOG](#))
- Can my child get the COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other shots?
 - Yes! According to the CDC and American Academy of Pediatrics, routine childhood immunizations and flu shots can be safely given at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine. ([Source: CDC](#))
- What are the long term effects of the vaccine on children? How can we be sure that the vaccine is safe?
 - Just as with other vaccines, this vaccine is expected to have short-term side effects like a sore arm and fever. We have not seen long-term side effects after nearly a year of giving the vaccine to hundreds of millions of adults, and we do not expect to see long-term effects in kids besides being protected against COVID-19. ([Source: CDC](#))
- Do the benefits of vaccinating my child outweigh the risks?
 - Yes. The American Association of Pediatrics recommends the COVID-19 vaccine for all children five and up who don't have severe allergic reactions to vaccines. In the cases of very rare instances of heart inflammation, known as myocarditis, an independent panel of doctors and scientists carefully reviewed the data and agreed that the risks associated with the COVID-19 vaccine are far lower than the risks posed by contracting COVID-19 in children. They also agreed that the overall risk of contracting COVID-19 is bigger than any potential side-effect from the vaccine. ([Source: CDC](#))

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Visit apiahf.org and madetosave.org for a wide variety of resources and information to protect your loved ones from COVID-19.