COVID-19 and Back To School: What You Should Know

Presenters: Heather Williams (CAN), Vaccinate ALL 58, and Dr. Priyanka Saxena and Dr. Jennie Chen (CDPH)

August 18, 2022
Agenda

• Back to School : Fall 2022
• General CDC Prevention/Guidance
• California, COVID 19 and Vaccines
• Vaccine Eligibility and Schedules
• Questions & Answers
• Resource: Communications Toolkit
• Thank You and Next Steps
Last year, there were 5.9 million k-12 students enrolled in school.

Students are in classrooms and participating in out of school time (OST) activities and programs.

Unfortunately, COVID is here to stay, impacting both classroom and out of school time (OST) because gathering together increases risk for COVID 19 exposure and transmission.

Important to know the key information. Today we will focus on COVID 19 and vaccines.
CDC and COVID 19

General:
• **Stay Up To Date On Vaccinations**
• Stay Home When You Are Sick
• Optimize Ventilation
• Hand Hygiene, Respiratory Etiquette & Cleaning

When Community Numbers Increase:
• Masking (reduce spread)
• Testing (Diagnostic and Screening)
• Management of Cases/Exposures
• Outbreak Response May Be Layered
• Consider High Risk Activities (ie: close contact and indoor sports)

CDC Guidance
(link here)
COVID-19 & Vaccines

Vaccines Administered

- 79,191,867 Total
- 28,723 Daily Doses

Vaccinated

- 79.9%
- (5+ with at least one dose)

COVID-19 - Cases

- 10,104,761 Confirmed
- 12,265 Daily Average

COVID-19 - Deaths

- 93,378 Total
- 34 average daily deaths

According to data available August 2, 2022

This information is all available on the Vaccines Dashboard
Vaccines are Safe and Effective:

• Studies continue to show that COVID-19 vaccine reactions are mild to moderate, including pain at the injection site and fatigue.

• Vaccines lower the risk of severe disease, hospitalizations, and death.

• Getting a COVID-19 vaccination is a safer and more dependable way to build immunity to COVID-19 than getting sick with COVID-19.

See data: here
What Do We Know About COVID-19 Vaccines?

Risks for Unvaccinated and Vulnerable Populations:

- Unvaccinated people are 6.9 times more likely to get COVID-19 than boosted individuals.

- Unvaccinated people are 11.2 times more likely to die than boosted individuals.

- Vulnerable populations (age, disabilities, etc) may be disproportionately impacted.

See data here.
COVID-19 is a Serious Childhood Illness

In the U.S., Covid-19 has resulted in:

- Over 14 million illnesses (with over 2.8 million in kids younger than 4 years old)
- Over 144,000 hospitalizations
- Over 1,700 deaths

Children younger than 5 years old were hospitalized 5 times more during Omicron than Delta.

Healthy children can also have severe COVID-19.

6 OUT OF 10 children under 5 years old who ended up in the hospital did not have any underlying health problems.

Hospitalization of Infants and Children Aged 0–4 Years with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 — COVID-NET, 14 States, March 2020–February 2022 | MMWR (cdc.gov)
COVID-19 is Now a Leading Cause of Death in Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age in Years</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Rank of Causes of Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preprint: Covid-19 is a leading cause of death in children and young people ages 0-19 years in the United States
Long COVID in Children

Long COVID can also affect children, even after a mild COVID-19 infection.

Most common symptoms are fatigue, headache, insomnia, trouble concentrating, muscle and joint pain, cough

Impact on quality of life:
- Limitations of physical activity
- Feeling distressed about symptoms
- Mental health challenges
- Decreased school attendance/participation
Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

- Rare but serious condition associated with Covid-19 infection
- Different parts of the body become inflamed

MIS-C has occurred in 1 of ~3,000-4,000 children with Covid-19 infection

Most children with MIS-C do not have any reported underlying medical conditions

The best way to protect against MIS-C is to protect against Covid-19 infection, including getting vaccinated
COVID-19 vaccination protects against multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) among 12–18 year-olds hospitalized during July–December 2021

Vaccination reduced likelihood of MIS-C by: 91%

ADOLESCENTS HOSPITALIZED WITH MIS-C

95% unvaccinated

No vaccinated MIS-C patients required life support

COVID-19 VACCINATION IS THE BEST PROTECTION AGAINST MIS-C

* Case control study, 236 patients in 24 pediatric hospitals – 24 U.S. states
† 2 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine received 28 days before hospital admission

bit.ly/MMWR7102
COVID-19 Vaccines are Safe

• Over 200 million people, including over 29 million children, have safely received the COVID-19 vaccine.

• Pfizer & Moderna’s results both showed:
  • Vaccine works very well in young children, like in adults.
  • Vaccine is very safe. Most children had only mild to moderate side effects (e.g., pain where shot was given).

Moderna Press Release 4/28/22
## COVID-19 Vaccine Availability and Timing

### COVID-19 Vaccine Timing – Pediatric

#### Routine Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Vaccine</th>
<th>Primary Doses</th>
<th>Booster Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 months–4 years</td>
<td>Pfizer–Infant/Toddler</td>
<td>1st Dose: 3–8 weeks&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;, 2nd Dose: ≥8 weeks, 3rd Dose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months–5 years</td>
<td>Moderna–Infant/Toddler</td>
<td>1st Dose: 4–8 weeks&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;, 2nd Dose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5–11 years</td>
<td>Pfizer–Pediatric</td>
<td>1st Dose: 3–8 weeks&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;, 2nd Dose: ≥5 months, Booster</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6–11 years</td>
<td>Moderna–Pediatric</td>
<td>1st Dose: 4–8 weeks&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;, 2nd Dose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: An 8-week interval may be preferable for some people, especially for males 12–39 years.

<sup>1</sup> Although use of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines is preferred, the Janssen vaccine may be offered in some situations.
Getting Routine Vaccines at the Same Time is Safe!

- Some children may be behind on their routine vaccines.

- It is safe for a child to get the COVID-19 vaccine and other routine vaccines, including the flu vaccine, at the same time!
Children and teens have the lowest vaccination rates.

63% of children 5-11 years and over 30% of adolescents have yet to be vaccinated.
COVID-19 Vaccination Trends

**SOME COMMUNITIES ARE FAR BEHIND**

Only about 23% of California children living in the least healthy conditions are vaccinated against COVID-19 compared to 54% living in the most healthy conditions.

Children, ages 5-11 (as of April 11, 2022).
Why Should We Immunize Children against COVID-19?

COVID-19 can sometimes be very severe in children, leading to:

• Hospitalization and Deaths
• Long Covid
• Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C)

COVID-19 vaccines provide strong protection against severe disease.

COVID-19 vaccines have been monitored very closely and are safe for all ages, including children.
Resources
Long COVID in Kids

Long COVID is defined as the presence of a wide range of new, returning, or ongoing health problems experienced by people 4 or more weeks after first being infected with COVID-19 and can remain for 6 months or more.

Many people living with the disease were previously fit & healthy. Children experience long COVID symptoms similar to adults.

Long COVID is a multi-system disease; these are over 200 listed symptoms which can change, come and go, or fluctuate over time and generally have an impact on everyday functioning.

Most common symptoms persisting 6 months:
- extreme exhaustion
- problems with memory and concentration
- shortness of breath
- fast heart rate or palpitations

Resources available at: https://covid19.ca.gov/
https://www.vaccinateall58.com/

Risk Comparison for Teens

Choosing NOT to vaccinate teens against COVID-19 is the riskier choice.

Visit myturn.ca.gov to find a vaccination location near you or call (833)422-4259.

Risk Comparison for Youth

Choosing NOT to vaccinate youth against COVID-19 is the riskier choice.

Visit myturn.ca.gov or call 1(833)422-4255 to find a vaccination location near you.
Resources for COVID-19 Vaccine (Under 18 Years)

For Staff Serving Infants, Children, and Teenagers

- **Infant/Toddler Vaccine Social Media Toolkit** for staff to post on their social media, to help promote the Infant/Toddler vaccine

- **WhatsApp Social Media Toolkit** for staff to post on their social media to help promote CDPH’s WhatsApp Spanish tool. The public can get their COVID-19 questions answered by texting HOLA at 833-422-1090 to chat.

- CDC webpage for staff on [How Schools and Early Care and Education (ECE) Programs Can Support COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

- CDC webpage for staff on [Customizable Content for School and Childcare – Located Vaccination Clinics](#)

- **COVID-19 Risk Comparison for Teens (12 Years+)** social media graphics and videos, in English and Spanish. Staff can post on their social media to help promote the COVID-19 vaccine for those 12 years and older.

- **CDPH Let's Get to Immunity Toolkit** with several informational videos in English and Spanish

[Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
Resources for COVID-19 Vaccine (Under 18 Years)

For Parents and Guardians
• COVID-19 Risk Comparison for Youth (5-11 Years), COVID-19 Risk Comparison for Teens (12 Years +), and What is Long COVID? printable flyers to share with parents and teenagers that are available in English and Spanish

• Top 5 Reasons Your Kids Should Get the COVID-19 Vaccine printable flyer
• CDC webpage for parents on How to Hold Your Child During Vaccination, also available in Spanish

For Children
• Printable coloring and activity pages in English and Spanish for children and social media graphics about the COVID-19 vaccine for children

For Teens
• CDC webpage on COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens, available in multiple languages
Questions?
Back To School Toolkit

https://toolkit.covid19.ca.gov/

Back to School Toolkit includes:
- event flyers
- newsletter articles
- fact sheets
- social media graphics
- testing information

and all other important resources as families get ready for the school year.

Everybody 5+ should get a booster.

5-11 year olds should now get their booster dose of Pfizer 5 months after their second dose.
Vaccinate ALL 58: here
• Get your questions answered
• Book your vaccine appointment
• Find resources to share in multiple languages

Thank You!