The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has now been authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for children 5 to 17 years old.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**
All children 5 to 17 years old can get the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

**WHICH DOSE DO THEY GET?**
- 5- to 11-year-olds get a 10-microgram dose.
- 12- to 17-year-olds get the same 30-microgram dose given to adults. To be fully vaccinated, children must receive two doses, 21 days apart.

**WHY VACCINATE MY CHILD?**
Unvaccinated children are at risk. COVID-19 cases in children can result in hospitalization, death, inflammatory syndrome, and long-term complications. This fall, COVID-19 was the 6th leading cause of death for 5- to 14-year-olds. Vaccines protect kids from both severe illness and death, and from infection so they can continue to learn in person, interact with peers and have a more normal life.

**HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE VACCINE?**
- In clinical trials, the vaccine was 91% effective in preventing COVID-19 in children 5 to 11 years old.
- 100% effective in preventing disease in 12- to 15-year-olds.

**WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?**
Side effects experienced by children in clinical trials were mild. They include pain and redness at the injection site, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, diarrhea and fever. Some children experience no side effects.

**CAN WE GET OTHER VACCINES AT THE SAME TIME?**
It is safe for kids to get a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as other vaccines, like flu or chickenpox.

**HOW CAN I GET MY CHILD VACCINATED?**
Find a vaccine provider offering the Pfizer COVID-19 in the smaller dose (10 mcg) for those 5 to 11 and in the regular dose (30 mcg) for 12-17-year-olds. Your pediatrician may offer it. A parent or guardian must accompany the child.

“Our youngest generations have shouldered heavy burdens over the past year, and the vaccine is a hopeful sign that they will be able to begin to experience all the activities that are so important for their health and development ... It’s essential for children to be vaccinated against COVID-19.”

-American Academy of Pediatrics President Lee Savio Beers, MD, FAAP

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rev 11/21