

Educate and Inoculate
Michigan Children's Hospital Clinical Leadership Collaborative
November 3rd, 2021

As clinicians who treat children and adolescents in our hospitals and clinics, we need your help to reduce the incidence of COVID-19 in our children and reduce spread across our families, friends, and communities. Even though COVID-19 is more impactful in adults, recent CDC data indicates that 8,300 children aged 5-11 years of age have been hospitalized from COVID-19 infections in the U.S. with 146 in this age group having died as a result. Vaccination is extremely effective in reducing the spread of COVID-19 with 91% effectiveness in reducing serious infection and hospitalization. On October 29, 2021, the FDA authorized the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for children ages 5 to 11, which means children ages 5 to 18 are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. We know that a child's medical home, primary care provider and in certain cases, specialist, provide the greatest influence and opportunity to educate and inoculate. As trusted sources of medical information, it is our responsibility as pediatric providers to ensure access to vaccinations is easy, efficient, and readily accessible to all children.

The [FDA](#), [CDC](#), [Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics](#), [The American Academy of Pediatrics](#), [American Academy of Family Practice](#), [Children's Hospital Association](#), [Michigan Health and Hospital Association](#) and [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#) recommend and support the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination in children ages 5 to 18. Please visit their websites for more information and details to share with your peers, patients, and families.

If already providing COVID-19 vaccinations in your office, thank you and we encourage you to visit the MDHHS website for information on ordering pediatric vaccine doses. For those who are not, it is not too late to register with the [State of Michigan Systems to participate in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#). Please take note, the vials and dosage for patients 5 to 11 are different than adolescents and adults.

Together we can educate our communities to ensure that Michigan children are safely and effectively vaccinated as we provide the highest level of care to our patients and families. With vaccinations, we can end this pandemic. Our children and families need each of us to do our part, please educate and inoculate your patients.

With Appreciation,

Michigan Children's Hospital Clinical Leadership Collaborative

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Additional Information

Ensure your office is prepared for the arrival of COVID-19 vaccine with these resources:

- MDHHS [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Preparation Checklist & Resource Toolkit](#).
- Learn more about becoming a Michigan COVID-19 vaccine provider: [3 Steps for Health Care Professionals to participate in the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#).
- The CDC has now opened a pediatric vaccination page ([COVID-19 Vaccination for Children 5–11 Years Old | CDC](#)) which provides links to operational planning guides and current communication resources available around COVID-19 vaccination.
- For questions or issues with enrollment, please contact the MDHHS COVID-19 Provider Enrollment Team: MDHHS_COVIDVaccineProviders@michigan.gov.

Other helpful information may be found in these resource materials:

- [MDHHS - COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Guidance and Educational Resources \(michigan.gov\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinical and Professional Resources | CDC-including tabs for vaccine storage and handling, administration, training and education](#)
- Subscribe to MiHAN for up-to-date information as new information is released. [MIHAN \(michiganhan.org\)](http://michiganhan.org)