The COVID-19 vaccine for youth ages 12+

Currently, the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is the only one available to children 12 years and older.

Why should my child get vaccinated?

COVID-19 vaccination can help protect your child from getting COVID-19. Children can be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, can get sick from COVID-19, and can spread the virus that causes COVID-19 to others. Getting your child vaccinated helps to protect your child and your family.

In Ingham County, under Emergency Order Ingham2021-3, a student who is fully vaccinated (two weeks after second dose) is not required to quarantine following close contact with a positive case in Education settings and can remain in school and attending extracurricular activities.

What data is there to support the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine in individuals 12 through 15 years of age?

The available safety data to support the Emergency Use Authorization in adolescents in this age group include 2,260 participants ages 12 through 15 years old enrolled in an ongoing randomized, placebo-controlled clinical trial in the United States.

The trial enrolled 2,260 adolescents 12 to 15 years of age in the United States. In the trial, 18 cases of COVID-19 were observed in the placebo group (n=1,129) versus none in the vaccinated group (n=1,131). The vaccine was 100% effective in preventing COVID-19.

Can my child receive a routine vaccination and the COVID-19 vaccine on the same day?

Yes. In addition to approving the vaccine’s use for adolescents, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its clinical guidance to allow COVID-19 vaccines to be administered at the same time as other routine vaccines.

Should I consult with my child’s pediatrician before they get the vaccine?

If you have any specific health concerns, please contact your pediatrician to discuss your options. However, if your child does not have any specific health concerns, you may schedule your appointment without consulting your pediatrician.

Will there be side effects for my child after the vaccine?

Your child may have some side effects, which are normal signs that their body is building protection. These side effects may affect your child’s ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects.

If my child already had COVID-19, should they still get the COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes, your child should be vaccinated regardless of whether they already had COVID-19 because:

- Research has not yet shown how long you are protected from getting COVID-19 again after you recover from COVID-19.
- Vaccination helps protect you even if you’ve already had COVID-19.

To find a COVID-19 vaccination location near you, visit www.vaccines.gov

Updated 10/6/21: We will continue to update our materials as information and guidance changes.