COVID-19 VACCINE FOR CHILDREN AGES 5 - 11YRS

Your medical provider wants you to know that COVID-19 vaccines are effective. Getting vaccinated will help to boost your child’s immune response against COVID-19. Clinical trials in thousands of children ages 5–11 years found the vaccine to be 91% effective in preventing symptomatic COVID-19 and it’s the best way to protect children against COVID-19 and its complications.*

WHO?
Anyone who is 5 years and older should get the vaccine.

WHY?
The COVID-19 vaccine will protect children from getting COVID-19 and it will also help keep them from getting ill even if they do get COVID-19.

IS IT SAFE?
Yes. The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective for children ages 5–11 years. No child who got the vaccine had any health problems from getting the vaccine. Just like any other vaccines they have received, there can be some mild side effects that go away within 2 days.

IS IT THE SAME DOSAGE?
No. Children ages 5–11yrs receive 1/3 the dose of people 12 years and older.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?
Like with other shots, your child may feel sore, tired, achy, and possibly feverish the day of and after the COVID-19 shot. These symptoms mean their body is building protection against COVID-19. Most symptoms will go away in 2 days. They may feel more symptoms after the second shot. They will need two shots for maximum protection.

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER YOUR CHILD’S VACCINATION
- Your child will need 2 shots given 3 weeks (21 days) apart.
- Tell your provider about any allergies your child may have.
- Comfort your child during the appointment if needed.
- After your child’s vaccine, your clinic will watch your child for 15–30 minutes to make sure they don’t have an allergic reaction.

*cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children.html

In California, permission from a parent or guardian is required before giving the COVID-19 vaccine to people under 18. Most clinics require the guardian to accompany their child to their vaccine appointment or to provide written or verbal consent in advance. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your clinic provider.