

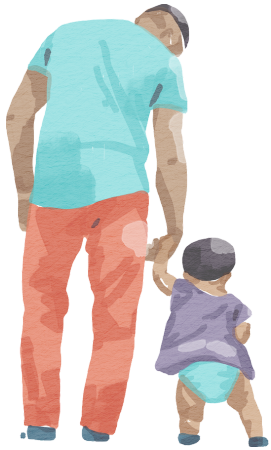
# PEDIATRIC VACCINE FAQs

## CHILDREN 6 MONTHS TO 5 YEARS OLD

Boston Public Health Commission Guidance

Updated: 06/29/2022

### WHY SHOULD I VACCINATE MY CHILD WHEN THEY ARE SIX MONTHS OR OLDER?



- BPHC recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older be vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccine **protects your child** from severe illness from COVID-19.
- Getting eligible children vaccinated can help prevent them from getting really sick even if they do get infected and help prevent serious short- and long-term complications of COVID-19
- Children can spread the virus to others even if they don't feel sick, including babies too young to be vaccinated and other family and friends who are at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.
- Vaccinating your child can help keep them in childcare and makes it safer for them to enjoy the activities they love!

### IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE SAFE FOR MY CHILD?

- Yes. The COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective for children 6 months and older.
- Millions of children ages 5 and older have safely received the vaccine. The risks of and possible severe complications of COVID-19 outweigh the potential risks of rare, adverse reactions to the vaccine.



### DO CHILDREN RECEIVE A SMALLER DOSE OF COVID-19 VACCINE THAN TEENS AND ADULTS?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccine dosage is based on age on the day of vaccination, not on a child's size or weight. This is also true for other routinely recommended vaccines, like hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines.

### CAN CHILDREN SAFELY RECEIVE OTHER VACCINES THE SAME DAY THEY RECEIVE THEIR COVID-19 VACCINE?

- Yes. Routine vaccination is an important preventive care service that should not be delayed.
- If multiple vaccines are given at a single visit, each shot will be given in a different spot, according to recommendations by age.



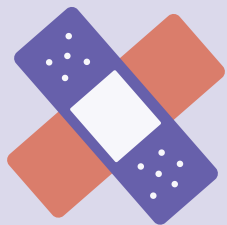
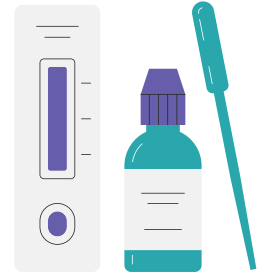
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### SHOULD I STILL GET MY CHILD VACCINATED IF THEY'VE ALREADY HAD COVID-19?

- Yes. Evidence shows that people get more protection by getting vaccinated after they have been infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. This immunity is important to keep your child protected from getting very sick with COVID-19 in the future.
- For children who have been infected with COVID-19, their next dose can be delayed 3 months from when symptoms started or, if they did not have symptoms, 3 months from when they received a positive test result.



### VACCINATION SCHEDULE

Children younger than 5 years should get the same vaccine for their second (and third) doses of their primary series as they received for their first dose. They will be considered fully vaccinated two weeks after either their third Pfizer dose or second Moderna dose.

#### PFIZER

- Ages: 6 months to 4 years
- Doses: Three
- Schedule: Second dose taken at least 21 days (3 weeks) days after the first, and the third dose taken at least 56 days (8 weeks) days after the second.

#### MODERNA

- Ages: 6 months to 5 years
- Doses: Two
- Schedule: Second dose delivered at least 28 days (4 weeks) after the first.



*If you still have **questions** about the benefits vs. risk of vaccinating your child, BPHC encourages you to discuss it with your child's pediatrician or other trusted medical provider.*

**References:**

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccines.page#child>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children/6-things-to-know.html>