PROTECT YOUR CHILD WITH THE COVID-19 VACCINE

Getting children vaccinated against COVID-19 protects them from getting really sick and allows kids to attend childcare, school, visits to grandparents, and other activities safely.

The COVID-19 vaccine is recommended for all kids 6 months old and up

Just like adults, children and teens of all ages can:

• Get very sick from COVID-19
• Have both short and long-term health problems
• Spread COVID-19 to others

There is no way to tell in advance how children or teens will be affected by COVID-19. Children who are vaccinated get protection without risking additional illness from the effects of COVID-19. As a parent or caregiver, protect your child and gain a sense for comfort by getting them vaccinated.

PROTECT YOUR CHILD

Children with underlying medical conditions, or who have a weakened immune system, are more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19. However, those without underlying medical conditions can also experience severe illness and be hospitalized. In fact, approximately 1 in 3 children younger than 18 years old hospitalized with COVID-19 have no underlying conditions.

GAIN A SENSE OF COMFORT

Getting children and teens vaccinated against COVID-19 can help keep them from getting really sick if they do get COVID-19. Vaccinating children can also give parents and caregivers confidence for their children to participate in childcare, school, sports, visits to grandparents, and other activities.

Find more on the back of this handout, or visit www.cdc.gov/covid-19/children
Boosters are available for children 5 years and older to add to their protection.

**IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE SAFE FOR KIDS?**
COVID-19 vaccines are being monitored under the most intense vaccine safety monitoring program in U.S. history. Before recommending COVID-19 vaccination for children, scientists conducted clinical trials with thousands of kids to make sure the vaccine was safe and effective.

**DO KIDS GET THE SAME AMOUNT OF VACCINE ADULTS DO?**
COVID-19 vaccine dosage is based on age, not on a child’s size or weight. This is also true for other routinely recommended vaccines, like hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines. Children can also safely receive other vaccines the same day they receive their COVID-19 vaccine.

**WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS ALREADY HAD COVID-19?**
People can get added protection by getting vaccinated after having been infected with COVID-19. Even if a child has had COVID-19, they should still get vaccinated.

**DOES THE COVID-19 VACCINE HAVE SIDE EFFECTS?**
Reported side effects are mild, temporary and like those experienced after routine vaccines. Side effects are more common after the second shot. Some children have no side effects.

**TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT PROTECTING YOUR CHILD WITH THE COVID-19 VACCINE**
For a list of vaccination providers, [www.dubuquecountyiowa.gov/sleevesup](http://www.dubuquecountyiowa.gov/sleevesup)