



Durham Region Health Department FAX about...

For Health Care Professionals



COVID-19 Vaccine Approved for Children 5 – 11 Years of Age

On November 19, 2021, Health Canada authorized the use of a Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty) COVID-19 vaccine in children 5 to 11 years of age. The pediatric COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine is authorized for children who will be **turning five-years old in 2021 (born in 2016) to 11-years old.**

Vaccine Interval and Dosing

The vaccine is administered in a **two-dose series** at a recommended interval of **eight weeks (56 days) apart** for children to be fully vaccinated. The eight-week interval is optimal for longest lasting protection.

Children 5 to 11 years (turning 5 in 2021) of age will receive the **10 mcg dose** of Pediatric Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, whereas adolescents 12 years of age and older should continue to receive the 30 mcg dose. The **lower dose** Pediatric Pfizer vaccine is **safe and effective** at protecting this age group from COVID-19 and the Delta variant.

Concurrent Vaccine Administration

COVID-19 vaccines for children 5-11 years old **should not routinely be given concomitantly** (i.e., same day) with other vaccines (live or non-live). In the absence of evidence, it is recommended to wait for a period of at least **14 days** before or after the administration of another vaccine before administering a COVID-19 vaccine to prevent erroneous attribution of an adverse event following immunization (AEFI) to one particular vaccine or the other.

Vaccine Availability

Starting November 25, 2021, community clinics are available for children 5 to 11-years old in **all** eight municipalities and select school-based clinics by **appointment only**. Older family members or friends will not be able to receive vaccine during clinics designated for children. The vaccine will also be available at select pharmacies and health care providers.

Information about clinic locations and hours is available via durham.ca/covidvaccines. Appointments can now be booked online at durham.ca/vaccineappointment.

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905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729 | durham.ca/health

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



For additional information, please refer to:

Ministry of Health:

https://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/covid19_vaccine.aspx

Government of Ontario:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccines-children-and-youth>

Health Canada:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/vaccination-children/covid-19.html>

NACI's statement:

<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-use-covid-19-vaccines/pfizer-biontech-10-mcg-children-5-11-years-age/pfizer-biontech-10-mcg-children-5-11-years-age.pdf>

November 24, 2021

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