FAQs: COVID-19 Vaccination and Children

Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) has answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) about the COVID-19 vaccine that is available for children ages 12 and older.

Q: Is the vaccine safe and effective for children?

A: The Pfizer vaccine has emergency use authorization (EUA) for ages 12-15 and has been proven safe and effective. The clinical trial data submitted to the Food and Drug Administration demonstrated 100 percent effectiveness at preventing disease in this age group. That is why pediatric specialists at Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital are encouraging parents to get their children vaccinated for their safety, as well as the safety of their family. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to get vaccinated.

Q: Did the Pfizer vaccine receive full FDA approval for children?

A: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Monday, Aug. 23, gave full approval to the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for those 16 and older, elevating it from emergency use authorization (EUA). It remains under EUA for those 12-15.

Q: Are side effects in children different than in adults?

A: Common side effects of the vaccine in adults and children are pain, redness and swelling in the arm where you received the shot, as well as fatigue, tiredness, mild headache, muscle pain, chills, fever and nausea. These side effects can affect one's ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. In children and adolescents, these side effects may be more common with the first dose than typically seen in adults.

Q: What should I do if my child experiences side effects from the COVID-19 vaccine?

A: You may want to give your child acetaminophen four times a day at the appropriate dosing for the first one to two days after receiving the vaccine. Please don't give your child ibuprofen or acetaminophen before receiving the vaccine. To reduce pain and discomfort where your child got the shot, apply a cool, wet cloth to the spot on the arm where the shot was given. Drinking lots of fluids and wearing light clothing can help when there is fever.

Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital

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Q: How can I get a COVID-19 vaccine for my child?

A: LVHN has many convenient ways to schedule or walk in
for a COVID-19 vaccine, including:

• Online: LVHN.org/appointments
• MyLVHN, the patient portal: MyLVHN app or visit LVHN.org/MyLVHN
• COVID-19 Vaccine Hotline: 833-584-6283 (833-LVHN-CVD). Hotline is
  open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
• Walk in: LVHN COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics. Check LVHN.org/vaccines for
  days and hours clinics are open or call 833-584-6283.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic–Northampton Crossings

3768 Easton Nazareth Highway
Easton, PA 18045

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic–Pocono

Lehigh Valley Hospital–Pocono
206 E. Brown St.
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301-3006

Pfizer vaccine is provided at all LVHN vaccine clinics.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic–Hazleton

Lehigh Valley Hospital–Hazleton
700 E. Broad St.
Hazleton, PA 18201-6835

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic–Schuylkill

Lehigh Valley Hospital–Schuylkill E. Norwegian Street
700 E. Norwegian St.
Wall Auditorium, third floor main lobby.
Take Parking Garage elevator to 3H (3 hospital).
Pottsville, PA 17901

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic–MacArthur Road

2633 MacArthur Road
Whitehall, PA 18052

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