

IN FOCUS: CHILDREN AND COVID-19

Why should children be vaccinated?

GUIDANCE FOR THE 5-11 AGE GROUP

The Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP) hosted a Virtual Town Hall, "Your Questions Answered: COVID-19 vaccines for children PART 2 – A Focus on the 5 – 11 Age Group", which addressed concerns from parents about COVID-19 vaccines for children. The following are the **key takeaways** from the panel of regional public health experts.

PREVENTION

VACCINES PREVENT CHILDREN FROM BECOMING SICK

Vaccines help prevent children from getting COVID-19 and prevent or reduce the spread of COVID-19 within communities.

The more people vaccinated, the faster countries will get to herd immunity.



RESTORING NORMAL LIFE

Vaccinating children against COVID-19 can help restore more normal life. Getting vaccinated will also help keep children in school and participating in sports and other recreational activities that they enjoy.

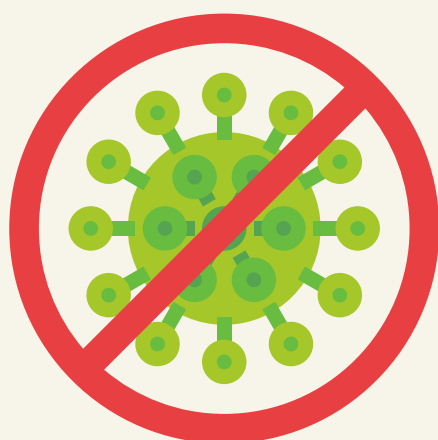
Vaccinated children exposed to COVID-19 are less likely to get infected, and so are more likely to be able to continue participating with fewer disruptions to school attendance and other activities.



STOP VARIANTS

Transmission provides a chance for the virus to mutate into more infectious new variants that might be resistant to vaccines.

Stop transmission – ensure your family is fully vaccinated and boosted.



WILL THERE BE SIDE EFFECTS?

Your child might notice pain at the injection site (upper arm), and could feel more tired than usual. Headache, achy muscles or joints, and even fever and chills are also possible. These side effects are usually temporary and generally clear up within 48 hours.



SOURCE:

Your Questions Answered: COVID-19 vaccines for children PART 2 – A Focus on the 5 – 11 Age Group - PANCAP Virtual Town Hall, 25 November 2021