

COVID VACCINE FOR 5-11 YEAR OLDS

We are as excited as many of you are for the FDA to meet on 10/26/21 to discuss Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine use in the 5-11 year old age group. While we have been giving Pfizer COVID vaccine to age 12 years and older, we ask that you be patient if and when the 5-11 year old group receives emergency use authorization.

Our goal, when approved, is to have as many of our patients vaccinated as soon as possible. Some challenges that we face (as a primary care office and in our community):

- We are not yet aware whether the current vials will be the same dilution. We may be awaiting new supply and instructions.
- Our supply is provided by the health department and we have to work with them for delivery and supplies.
- While it is safe to co-administer with other vaccines, we will only be offering COVID vaccine in a specific COVID vaccine clinic. In order to allow access for regular care, we do not have the physical space for patients to wait the required 15min for COVID vaccine in addition to an annual physical, sick visit or flu shot visit.
- We do not yet know whether neighborhood pharmacies will be allowed to administer to this age group.
- We are working with Inova to set up community mass vaccination sites. Please know that current places that take appointments (i.e. government center) may not be allowed to administer to this age group.

If and when the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine receives EUA for 5-11 year olds:

- Please do not call our phone lines to ask questions or try to schedule an appointment. As you know, we have an ongoing overwhelming sick season - we want our phones to be available for families to make appointments for their sick children.
- Please do not request prescriptions emergently for the vaccine to be received at an outside facility. As you may know, our providers are performing multiple tasks throughout the day, with the priority going to urgent medical care and advice.

"We will communicate updates as soon as we get more information. Please also check our [website](#) regularly for COVID information!