Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Planning for Children 6 Months–4 Years

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ACIP Meeting

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Approach to Reaching All Children Aged 6 Months–4 Years

- Goal: Ensure all eligible children <5 years old (~20 million) have access and ability to get vaccinated*

*ECE: Early care and education, DoD: Department of Defense, IHS: Indian Health Service, FQHC: Federally Qualified Health Center, RHC: Rural Health Clinic
Possible Network of Vaccine Providers for Children Aged 6 Months–4 Years

~18,000 non-pharmacy providers that have administered the 5-11 vaccine

+ ~4,000 pharmacies that have expressed interest in administering vaccine to children <5 years

= ~85% of children <5 years live within 5 miles of a vaccine provider
Vaccination by Regular Health Care Provider in the Medical Home

- Doctors' offices are common locations for vaccination
  - During the 2020-2021 flu season*:
    - ~80% of children 6 months–4 years old were vaccinated in a doctor’s office
    - ~4% of children 2–4 years old and <1% of children <2 years old were vaccinated in a pharmacy
- Well-patient visits are an opportunity for clinicians to provide recommended vaccines and:
  - Conduct recommended screenings (such as development, autism, vision, iron deficiency, lead poisoning)
  - Provide counseling on nutrition, injury prevention, and chronic disease management

*National Immunization Survey-Flu (NIS-Flu), 2020-21 Influenza Season
## COVID-19 Vaccine Practices and Intention to Vaccinate Children Aged <5 Years Among Vaccines for Children (VFC) Providers*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All providers N=2,246**</th>
<th>Urban providers N=1,551</th>
<th>Rural providers N=678</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n (%)</td>
<td>n (%)</td>
<td>n (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have administered COVID-19 vaccine to children aged 5–17 years</td>
<td>1,915 (85%)</td>
<td>1,338 (86%)</td>
<td>562 (83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intend to offer COVID-19 vaccine to children aged &lt;5 years</td>
<td>1,641 (73%)</td>
<td>1,175 (76%)</td>
<td>454 (67%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intend to offer COVID-19 vaccine to children aged &lt;5 years who are not regular patients</td>
<td>1,165 (52%)</td>
<td>760 (49%)</td>
<td>395 (58%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Unpublished CDC data from March 2022; 15,000 of approximately 38,000 VFC provider practices randomly selected and invited to complete an online survey during February 28–March 11, 2022 (response rate = 19%)

**Limited to practices enrolled in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program. Urban/rural status could not be determined for some practices.
How CDC is Supporting Health Departments, Clinicians, and Other Partners

- Operational Planning Guide
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/Pediatric-Planning-Guide.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/Pediatric-Planning-Guide.pdf)

- Dear Colleague letter to VFC providers

- Vaccine confidence bootcamps (such as with childcare partners)

- Jurisdiction-specific maps of likely vaccine providers for children aged <5 years

- Resources to promote the COVID-19 vaccine for children and teens
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children/resources-promote.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children/resources-promote.html)
Vaccines.gov Planning

- Vaccines.gov enables the public to identify nearby providers with vaccine in stock, and enables providers to report COVID-19 vaccine inventory.
- For the <5-year rollout, the minimum age (months and years) of vaccination at the location will be displayed in search results.
  - Providers can report this data now.
  - Example screenshot on right.
The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.