

School Nurse Update

Vaccinations for Adolescents 12-15 years old

May 2021

Test your knowledge about the Covid-19 vaccine for 12- 15 years old recently approved by the Center for Disease control (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)



True or False?

I can choose which vaccine I want for my Adolescent.

False - The Pfizer-BioNTech is the only Covid-19 vaccine available for adolescents at this time. 2 shots are given 21 days apart.

Once my adolescent receives 2 shots they are fully vaccinated.

False - A person is considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after the 2nd shot is given.

My adolescent may have some side effects after the vaccination.

True - Your child may have some side effects which are normal signs that their body is building protection. Side effects may include pain, redness, and swelling on the arm where the shot was given, as well as tiredness, headache, muscle pain, fever, chills, and nausea. These side effects usually start within a day or two of getting the vaccine. They may affect your child's ability to do daily activities but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects.

Covid-19 vaccines are safe and effective for 12-15 yr olds.

True - According to the CDC, COVID-19 vaccines were evaluated in tens of thousands of participants in clinical trials. The vaccines met the FDA's rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality needed to support emergency use authorization (EUA). COVID-19 vaccines have been used under the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history, including studies in children 12 years and older. This monitoring includes using both established and new safety monitoring systems to make sure that COVID-19 vaccines are safe.

My adolescent can get the Covid-19 vaccine and other vaccinations they still need at the same time.

True - You can get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines at the same visit. You no longer need to wait 14 days between vaccinations. Experience with other vaccines has shown that the way our bodies develop protection, known as an immune response, after

getting vaccinated and possible side effects of vaccines are generally the same when given alone or with other vaccines. If your adolescent is behind on routinely recommended vaccines, due to the pandemic or for other reasons, now is a good time to work with your child's healthcare provider to make sure they get caught up.

Last year ISD 624 did not enforce our exclusion policy due to the COVID-19 pandemic and limited clinic availability. However, the exclusion policy will resume for the 2021-2022 school year, in accordance with Minnesota Department of Health recommendations. Please contact your school health office if you are unsure if your student needs any vaccinations.



Where do I get a Covid-19 vaccine for my Adolescent??

- Use the [Vaccine Locator Map](#) to find vaccine providers near you.
- Go to a [COVID-19 Community Vaccination Program site](#). Walk-ins welcome, no appointment necessary.
- [Sign up for the Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector](#). The Vaccine Connector will inform you about vaccine opportunities in your area.
- Contact your primary health care provider or a local pharmacy.

Content Source: CDC(Center for Disease Control) and MDH(MN Department of Health)