

## **Pfizer Pediatric Covid-19 Vaccine Information**

### **Covid Disease Burden in Children:**

In children ages 5-11, there have been 1.9 million cases of coronavirus infection and 143 deaths, 8622 hospitalizations, and 5217 cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MISC) in the US

- There has been a 419% increase in Covid cases among children < 18 years old in August/Sept 2021 compared to June/July 2021
- Covid-19 is the 8th leading causes of death among children ages 5-14 years of age in Jan-May, 2021
- Long covid symptoms have been documented in children; in a UK study, 67% of children had some symptoms 2-4 months after acute covid infection and 27% had some symptoms greater than 4 months after infection
- 1/3 of the pediatric hospitalizations have been in children with no underlying medical conditions
- Children serve as vectors for transmission, giving Covid to vulnerable adults
- Non-medical consequences of Covid: children are missing school due to quarantine and school closures
- Their mental health is suffering due to Covid lockdowns and restrictions: depression, anxiety, suicide, obesity

### **Info on the Pfizer Vaccine:**

- 1.4 billion doses have been given worldwide as of 8/31/21
- In the initial pediatric study, there were 2250 participants; 1518 got vaccine and 750 got placebo; they were followed for 2 months after the second dose
- An additional 2250 children were enrolled after the FDA requested a larger study cohort
- Both sets of children will continue to be followed for 5 years ongoing
- This study was done this past summer when the Delta variant was the predominant circulating strain
- There were no cases of myocarditis or anaphylaxis in the study participants
- Side effects were mild such as redness and swelling of the arm, pain at the injection site, fever, fatigue, headache, chills, aches
- Efficacy was similar to older teens—90% effective and preventing symptomatic disease; there were 3 cases of covid infection in the vaccinated group and 16 cases in the placebo group (remember that the vaccinated group was much larger 1518 as opposed to 750 in the placebo group); those who were vaccinated and had breakthrough infections had milder symptoms compared to those who contracted covid in the placebo group indicating that while the vaccine did not prevent all infection, it did decrease the severity of illness