



Atlanta Children's Clinical Center, P.C.

June 20, 2022

To the patients and families of ACCC:

The FDA and CDC have authorized **Covid vaccines for children ages 6 months to 4 years of age**. We are awaiting our shipment from the federal government. We hope to begin vaccinating infants and toddlers this week! Here at ACCC, we will have the Pfizer vaccine. The dose for our youngest patients is 1/10 the adult dose and requires 3 doses to complete. Dose 1 and 2 are administered three weeks apart and the 3rd dose is two months after the 2nd dose. Side effects are similar to those seen in older children and include fever, fussiness, pain and/or swelling at the site of the injection. No cases of anaphylaxis or myocarditis were seen in the study trial participants.

Parents often ask us if the Covid vaccine is necessary in this youngest age group. While the majority of children who contract Covid have mild illness, a small percentage get hospitalized, have severe illness, or have long-Covid symptoms. **Four hundred and forty children under the age of 5 have died** from Covid-19 since the start of the pandemic. This is more than usually die from influenza annually. About half of them have underlying health issues but the other half have no known risk factors. Even if your child has had Covid disease, we still recommend vaccination. We know that vaccination will not prevent all infections, but it does protect against severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

Please call the office to schedule your child's appointment for vaccination. We continue to offer first, second, and **booster** doses for children ages 5 and older as well as for parents. If you have questions about the vaccine, you can ask one of us at your child's upcoming well visit appointment or you can schedule an in person office visit or **telemedicine** visit to discuss. We are always happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

In other news, many of our families and teens are **traveling abroad** after two long years of the pandemic. Many countries in Africa, South/Central America, and Asia require **typhoid vaccine** and/or malaria prophylaxis. Please make a **travel consult appointment** with us. We can discuss malaria medication, administer typhoid vaccine, and also make sure your child is up to date with their routine vaccines. We can discuss any specific travel precautions for the countries you are visiting. We are also offering typhoid vaccines to parents.

Please continue to check the website <http://atlchildrens.com/> for updates on vaccination for our youngest patients. Please continue to schedule those summer checkups! If your child will be playing a sport, going to camp, needs a physical form for school, we can take care of all those forms if their annual checkup has been done in the last 12 months. We appreciate your support and patience as always.

Drs. Maxey, Chugani, & Ference