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COVID-19 Vaccines in Children and Adolescents

Committee on Infectious Diseases

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POLICY STATEMENT Organizational Principles to Guide and Define the Child Health Care System and/or Improve the Health of all Children

American Academy of Pediatrics

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Vaccines are safe and effective in protecting individuals and populations against infectious diseases. New vaccines are evaluated by a long-standing, rigorous, and transparent process through the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by which safety and efficacy data are reviewed prior to authorization and recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends the following related to COVID-19 vaccine in children and adolescents:

- The AAP recommends COVID-19 vaccination for all children and adolescents 12 years of age and older who do not have contraindications using a COVID-19 vaccine authorized for use for their age.

- Any COVID-19 vaccine authorized through Emergency Use Authorization by the FDA, recommended by the CDC, and appropriate by age and health status can be used for COVID-19 vaccination in children and adolescents.
- Given the importance of routine vaccination and the need for rapid uptake of COVID-19 vaccines, the AAP supports coadministration of routine childhood and adolescent immunizations with COVID-19 vaccines (or vaccination in the days before or after) for children and adolescents who are behind on or due for immunizations ([based on the CDC/AAP Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#)) and/or at increased risk from vaccine-preventable diseases.

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