

## → Vaccination

### WHY vaccinate 12- to 17-year-olds?

The aim of vaccinating children age 12 to 17 is to protect them against COVID-19 and its complications.

Vaccination curbs the spread of the virus so they can keep going to school, sports, and social activities and things can get back to normal as soon as possible.

### Which VACCINE will be used?

Only the Pfizer vaccine has been approved by Health Canada for use in children age 12 to 17. Pfizer's mRNA COVID-19 vaccine will be used.

### Is the Pfizer mRNA COVID-19 vaccine EFFECTIVE?

Yes. The vaccine is estimated to be 100% effective in preventing COVID-19 in children after two doses.

### Is the Pfizer mRNA COVID-19 vaccine SAFE?

Yes. The Pfizer vaccine is approved by Health Canada. It was put through all the steps of the vaccine approval process. High quality studies were also performed on a large sample of people. Experts are closely monitoring any adverse reactions that could occur following vaccination and are taking steps to ensure that the vaccine is used safely.

### HOW MANY doses are required?

Two doses of Pfizer's mRNA COVID-19 vaccine are required, given via intramuscular injection.

Children who have already had COVID-19 may only need one dose of the vaccine. However, for those who are immunocompromised, two doses are required even if they have already had COVID-19. The vaccinator will determine how many doses are required for each children.

### How long does PROTECTION against COVID-19 last after vaccination?

Studies to better determine how long protection lasts are still ongoing. Protection last at least six months.

### Can the vaccine CAUSE COVID-19?

The vaccine can't cause COVID-19 because it doesn't contain the virus that causes the disease. However, if someone comes into contact with the virus in the days preceding or following their vaccination, they could still develop COVID-19.

It's important to continue to follow health guidelines until most of the population has been vaccinated.

