

UNMASK THE FACTS

September 1-11

September 1, 2022

CDC recommends updated COVID-19 boosters

The CDC now urges everyone 12 years old and older to get an updated booster shot. They should do so at least 2 months after they complete their primary series or 2 months after they received their most recent booster shot. The updated Pfizer-BioNTech booster can be used in people as young as 12, and the Moderna booster can be used in those who are 18 and older. People 12 and older who got the Novavax or Moderna primary series can also get an updated booster shot 2 months after their last dose.

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September 7, 2022

The U.S. plans to shift to annual COVID-19 shots

According to the White House, the U.S. is moving towards making COVID-19 boosters an annual shot like flu vaccines. Experts don't know yet if everyone will need annual shots to combat COVID-19, but the current strategy of recommending more than one dose a year is failing. Demand for shots has waned with each round of recommended boosters. COVID-19 still poses a serious public health threat in the U.S. as more than 300 people die each day from the virus.

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September 2, 2022

New study highlights the safety of COVID-19 vaccines in young children

A new CDC study shows that mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are safe for children 6 months to 5 years old. More than 1 million young children in the U.S. have been vaccinated against COVID-19, and reports of serious adverse events are very rare. Most reported reactions are mild or moderate, such as pain in the arm where the shot was given, irritability, crying, and sleepiness. Everyone aged 6 months and older should receive a COVID-19 vaccine to protect against severe illness and death.

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September 7, 2022

COVID-19 cases in children increase for the second week in a row

According to a [report](#) from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association, the end of August brought a small but second consecutive increase in weekly COVID-19 cases among children. New cases rose by 4.6% for the week of Aug. 26 to Sept. 1, following a week in which cases increased by almost 9%. The second half of August reversed the two consecutive weeks of decreases during the first half of the month. Low vaccination rates among children could be to blame.

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September 6, 2022

10.5 million children lost a parent or caregiver because of COVID-19

More than 10.5 million children have lost one or both of their parents during the coronavirus pandemic, nearly double the previous estimates, according to a [research letter](#) published in JAMA Pediatrics. Southeast Asia and Africa suffered the greatest rate of losses, with one out of every 50 children affected. In the Americas, this number dropped to one out of 150 children. Children in countries with lower vaccination rates and higher numbers of children per mother were more likely to be affected.

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