



## **St. Lawrence County Public Health Department**

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### **Press Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **St. Lawrence County Public Health Department starts Pfizer clinics for children ages 5-11**

**Canton, NY**— New York Clinical Advisory Task Force has unanimously agreed with the approved use of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for 5-11-year-olds. This announcement came after the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, and the FDA approved the use of the Pfizer vaccine in this younger population.

COVID-19 cases in children can result in hospitalizations, deaths, MIS-C (inflammatory syndromes), and long-term complications, such as "long COVID," in which symptoms can linger for months. Vaccination, along with other preventative measures, can protect children from COVID-19 using the safe and effective vaccines already recommended for use in adolescents and adults in the United States. Similar to what was seen in adult vaccine trials, vaccination was nearly 91 percent effective in preventing COVID-19 among children aged 5-11 years. In clinical trials, vaccine side effects were mild, self-limiting, and similar to those seen in adults and with other vaccines recommended for children. The most common side effect was a sore arm.

COVID-19 vaccines have undergone – and will continue to undergo – the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history. Vaccinating children will help protect them from getting COVID-19 and therefore reducing their risk of severe disease, hospitalizations, or developing long-term COVID-19 complications. Getting your children vaccinated can help protect them against COVID-19, as well as reduce disruptions to in-person learning and activities by helping curb community transmission.

The St. Lawrence County Health Department will begin holding Pfizer clinics starting next week for children ages 5-11. The first clinic will be held on November 13, 2021, at St. Lawrence University from 9 AM - 4 PM. This is a family event and will be offering 1st dose Pfizer for 5-11-year-olds, 12-17-year-olds, and anyone 18+. To pre-register for this event please visit: <https://stlawco.org/Departments/PublicHealth/COVID-19Vaccine> or call 315-229-3452.

For more information on the CDC recommendation, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/planning/children.html>.

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