# COVID-19 AND KIDS

# MYTH #1-KIDS DON'T GET SERIOUSLY ILL WITH COVID-19.

**FACT:** Although rare, kids can get very sick and be hospitalized with COVID-19. There have been over 500 pediatric deaths in the U.S. from COVID-19.



## MYTH #2–KIDS DON'T SPREAD COVID-19.

**FACT:** Kids can spread COVID-19. When there are no prevention efforts in place such as masking, children can effectively spread COVID-19 to their friends and classmates.

## MYTH #3-MASKS DON'T WORK AND ARE DANGEROUS FOR KIDS.

**FACT:** Masks are made of breathable material and do not block oxygen or trap carbon dioxide. Multiple studies have shown that universal masking is an

effective tool for controlling the spread of COVID-19.

### MYTH #4–KIDS DON'T NEED COVID-19 VACCINES BECAUSE THEY DON'T GET THAT SICK.



FACT: Vaccination can prevent severe disease in children just like adults. In the most recent wave of pediatric COVID-19 cases, unvaccinated adolescents were 10 times more likely to be admitted to the hospital when compared to vaccinated adolescents.

#### MYTH #5–MY KIDS ALREADY HAD COVID-19, SO THEY DON'T NEED THE VACCINE.

**FACT:** The vaccine provides additional protection against severe disease with COVID-19 – reinfection and immunity lasts longer after vaccination.



#### MYTH #6-THE COVID-19 VACCINE WILL CHANGE A CHILD'S DNA.



**FACT:** The messenger RNA used in COVID-19 vaccines enters the cell, but never enters the cell nucleus where DNA is located. The mRNA is quickly broken down and never becomes a part of the DNA.

## MYTH #7-COVID-19 VACCINES WILL CAUSE INFERTILITY.

**FACT:** A false report on social media stated that the COVID-19 vaccination causes infertility in women by forcing her body to "reject" the placenta. This was proven false in vaccine clinical trials and real-world data.



#### FACT: The COVID-19

Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines were created with a method that has been in development for years allowing the companies to start the vaccine



development process early in the pandemic. No steps were skipped including safety and effectiveness testing.

## MYTH #9-MY FRIEND GOT VACCINATED AND WAS INFECTED WITH COVID-19 ANYWAY. THE VACCINE DOESN'T WORK.

**FACT:** Infection after vaccination is possible but far less severe with decreased risk of severe disease or hospitalization. In fact the majority of

patients currently admitted to the hospital with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Break through infections do not represent vaccine failure.

## MYTH #10-COVID-19 IS JUST LIKE THE FLU.

**FACT:** Death rates are higher for COVID-19 when compared to influenza.



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