

Thanks for reaching out. CDC understands that WHO must consider the public health needs and resources of all nations when it makes recommendations, as well as the evolving epidemiology of COVID-19 globally. Given limited resources and opportunity costs, countries have to make trade-offs when deciding which public health actions to take. For example, countries that have not yet introduced other recently recommended childhood vaccines (e.g., pneumococcal, rotavirus) may prioritize these vaccines over those for COVID-19, given greater potential reductions in illness and death in that age group. [Interruptions to routine vaccination services in countries around the world](#) due to the COVID-19 pandemic have also [increased the risk of other vaccine-preventable diseases that may severely affect children, such as measles](#). WHO's updated recommendations provide flexibility for individual countries such as the United States to tailor COVID-19 vaccination recommendations to their population, disease risks, and public health priorities.

In the United States, CDC continues to recommend that everyone ages six months and older [should stay up to date with all COVID-19 vaccines](#). For most people, this includes getting an updated COVID-19 vaccine. Staying up to date is most important for people at [high risk for severe COVID-19](#), including older adults and people with certain medical conditions. Primary series vaccination provides a major jump in protection compared with not getting vaccinated, and getting an updated vaccine provides additional benefit on top of primary series vaccines. CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recently examined the benefits and risks of COVID-19 vaccines in children and found that the benefits outweigh the risks. For these reasons, CDC continues to recommend COVID-19 vaccines.

Both CDC and WHO follow [evidence-based vaccination policy development processes](#) with review of evidence by independent expert advisory groups. Evidence reviewed by CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices regarding COVID-19 vaccination for children was also reviewed by [WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization](#). As the COVID-19 situation changes in the United States and globally, CDC will continue to monitor the effectiveness and safety of COVID-19 vaccines and provide the latest information and recommendations