

FAQs for Covid-19 Vaccination for Children aged 5-11 years.

When are you anticipating a vaccination clinic for ages 5 to 11 at Tanque Verde Pediatrics? We are now awaiting formal recommendations from The Advisory Council on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Once this recommendation comes forth, we will plan on a Saturday and Sunday vaccination clinic within 10 days. Our target dates are Nov 13/14 and Dec 4/5.

Why the potential 10-day wait? If the formal recommendations come the first week of November, the weekend immediately following that date is Nov 6-7. If children need a second dose 3 weeks later, that brings us to Thanksgiving weekend. Due to travel and family plans, we feel that many children would miss getting their second dose on time. We are not willing to give the vaccine if we cannot strictly adhere to guidelines. So, in the event that the formal recommendation comes the first week of November, we will push our vaccination clinics to Nov 13-14, with the second dose on Dec 4-5.

Also, we need enough volunteers and personnel to be in town to give patients their vaccines in a safe environment.

Lastly, we need to wait for the shipment of the vaccine, as it is a special formulation and we cannot use our present stock for this age group.

For all of these reasons, we will plan on November 13th and 14th for the first dose and December 4th and 5th for the second dose. We know that so many of you have waited a long time and are anxiously awaiting this vaccine. If you feel like you want to try to find another location earlier, please know that we support that. If you feel like you can wait and have the vaccine administered in our office. We will be ready for you! We appreciate your patience in this regard.

How do I find out when the approval happens and when Tanque Verde Pediatrics will be hosting their vaccination clinics? We will send out multiple emails and texts to all of our families with updates periodically. Also, please see our [website home page](#) where there is an update box specifically for this issue.

Can I come on a weekday for the Covid vaccination? At this time, we are planning for weekend clinics to minimize time missed from work and school for patients and their parents. This also allows for any side effects that may arise from the vaccine to minimize missed work and school as well. We are not planning on any weekday times for administration of this vaccine right now.

What if I miss the vaccination weekend dates? We will set up weekday visits for those who cannot be at our weekend clinics in the following weeks as we are able. There are no plans to do this yet. If your child has a well visit in the next few months and we have a supply of this vaccine, you can get your child's vaccination during their well visit.

Can I get the vaccine at a location other than Tanque Verde Pediatrics? Yes. Our recommendation is to follow the guidelines set forth by ACIP. If their recommendation is to vaccinate children aged 5-11, then we approve any location that is giving vaccinations according to these guidelines.

How can I make an appointment for my child to get their Covid vaccination? Once the formal recommendation is set forth, we will have online scheduling as well as the ability to call into our office for scheduling. Please follow our website homepage for updates on when scheduling will be available. If you are not yet on the portal, please sign your child up. This will be the most efficient way to make an online appointment.

Can I bring my children that are 12 and up to the vaccination clinic for their vaccination? No. Due to the difference in dosing and dilution for the 5 to 11 year age group, we are restricting our clinics to just 5 to 11 year olds. If your older child needs a covid vaccination, please call our office and schedule that separately.

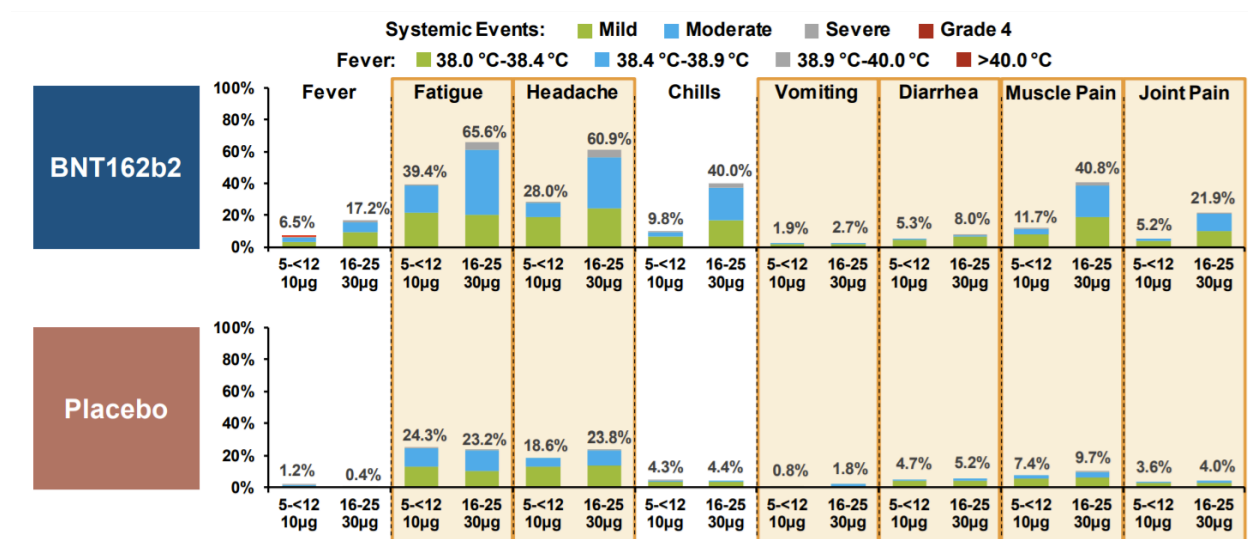
Do you have details about the dosing and scheduling of the vaccination in this age group? Yes. The dosing for this age group is two doses of 10 micrograms each (as opposed to the 12 and older 30 micrograms) of the BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine given 21 days apart.

What will I need to bring with me for the vaccination clinic? You will need to bring a pen, **masks for all entrants** and your child. We will have consent forms available online, if you wish to print those out and have those done upon arrival. We will also have copies in the office. Please anticipate a 15 to 30 minute wait period after the vaccination is given. We are also having a diaper and food drive during these clinics, so if you can, we would love any contributions to these drives! (See below).

Are you giving vaccinations to children aged 5 to 11 who are not Tanque Verde patients? Yes. If friends or family in this age group do not have a location to which to go to get this vaccine, they can come to our office. We ask that these patients call ahead of time to get registered for the vaccine at our office. They will not be able to schedule an appointment yet, but preregistration for non-TVP patients is appreciated.

Are there any contraindications to getting this vaccine? The only contraindication to getting this vaccine is an allergic reaction to a component of this vaccine. If your child has had covid, it is recommended that they still get the vaccine once they are free of symptoms. The immunity given after the vaccine is far greater and longer-lasting than that of natural infection.

Are there side effects? Yes. As seen with the teen and adult vaccines, there are minor side effects. Please see the graph below. The side effects are noted in the first row labeled BNT162b2.



What are the risks of myocarditis for this vaccine? There were no cases of myocarditis seen in the trials for this dose in this age group. That was expected given the relatively small sample size (~2500 in the vaccinated group). We are hopeful that the lower dose translates to less myocarditis risk for this age group. It remains important to note that the myocarditis seen with the vaccine is a real side effect, but is self-limited and self-resolving, as opposed to the myocarditis seen with Covid-19 disease. Furthermore, the incidence of myocarditis in vaccinated individuals is far less than that seen in children and adults with Covid-19 infection.

Is Tanque Verde Pediatrics recommending this vaccine for my child, aged 5 and up? YES. Without reservation, we recommend that your children receive this vaccine. Our children are vaccinated (or will be when it is available) and as always, we would never recommend something different for your child than our own.

Who do I contact if I have more questions? Please call your primary doctor if you have further questions. Due to the current high volume of Covid illnesses, well visits, and other sick visits, our clinic is busy. We ask that you book a telemedicine appointment with your child's physician if you want to discuss this vaccine further.

Where can I review the advisory board's notes on this topic? The following link is a summary of the meeting by the advisory board on October 26, 2021. <https://yourlocalepidemiologist.substack.com/p/vaccines-for-5-11-year-olds-fda-meeting>

Can I review the EUA in advance for this age group? Yes! Here is the link: <https://www.fda.gov/media/153717/download>

How can I help? We are having a diaper and food drive during these clinic days. If you would like to continue being a steward to your community (in addition to the wonderful gift of vaccination!), please bring monetary, food or diaper donations when you come in! Thank you, in advance for your support of our community!

Is there anything I can have ready in advance? Yes!! Our consent form will be on the website homepage. Click [here](#) for a direct link. If you can, print it out and bring it in with you for each child.