

Up-to-date information
about
COVID-19 vaccination
for children and youth

School Name

_____ Date

**Presented by the STOP COVID-19
in Kids Study Team and SickKids
COVID-19 Vaccine Consult
Service**

SickKids



Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge the land on which SickKids operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, Toronto is home to Indigenous Peoples from across Turtle Island. SickKids is committed to working toward new relationships that include First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples, and is grateful for the opportunity to share this land in caring for children and their families.





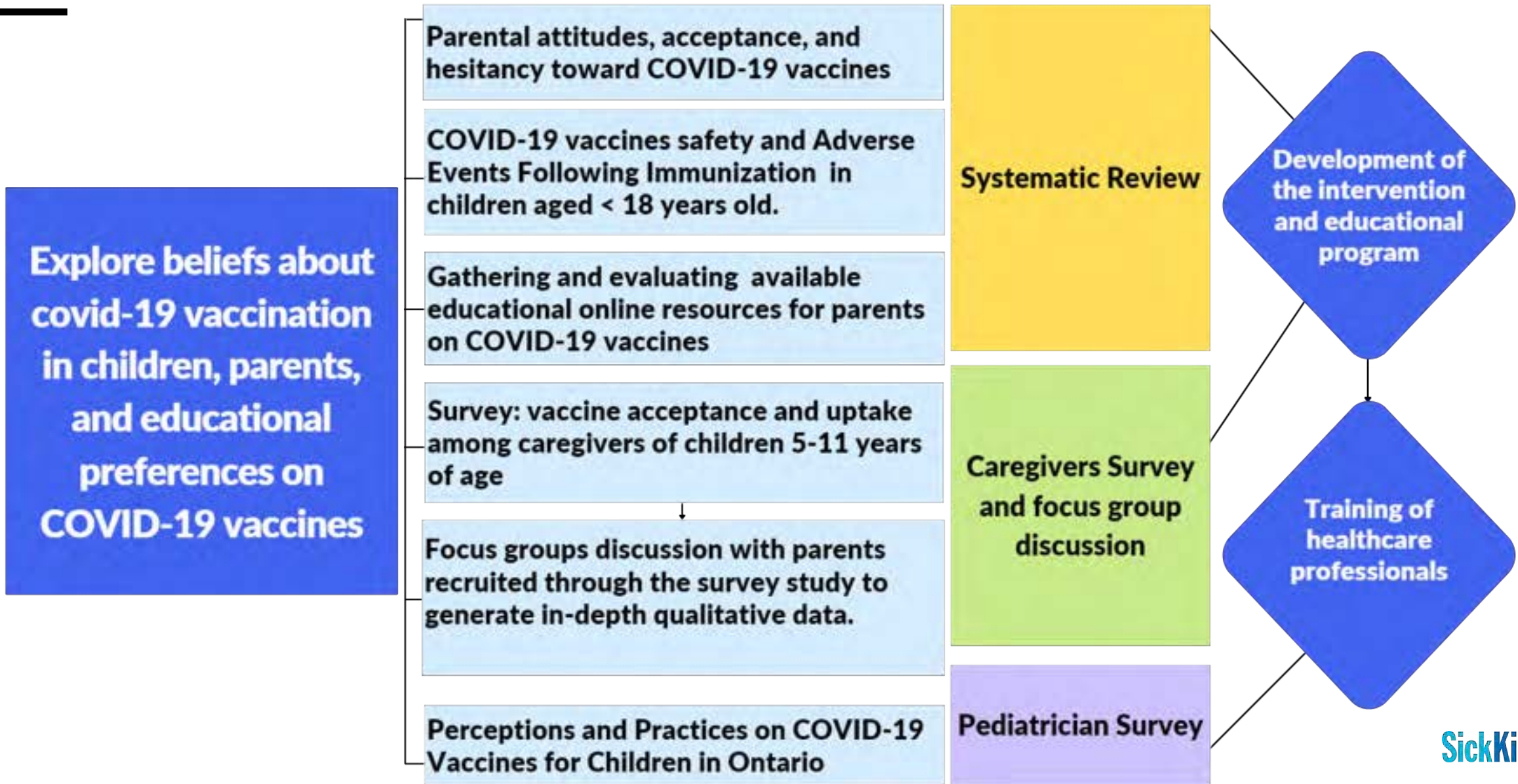
Objectives

Have an open and judgement-free discussion about:

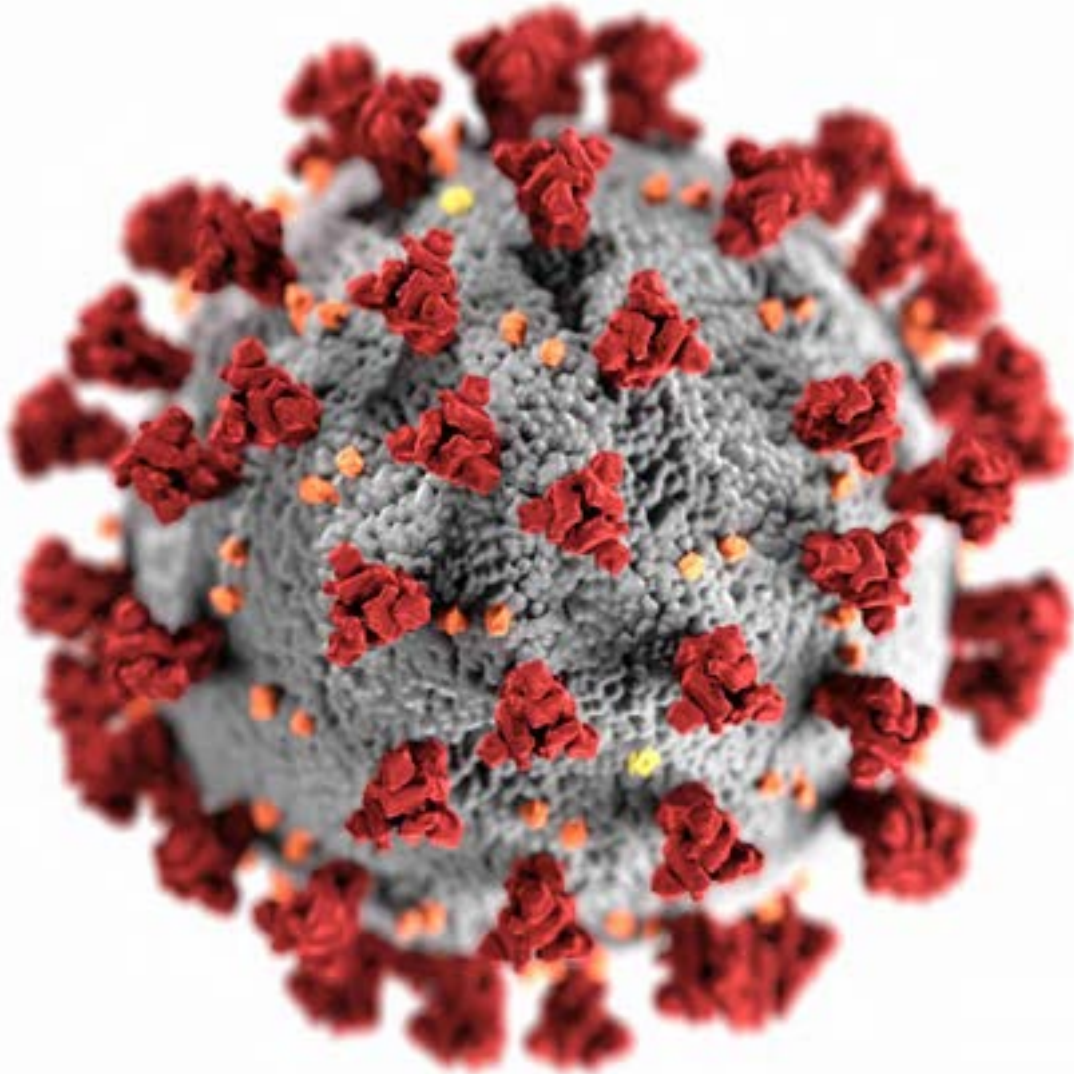
- COVID-19 and prevention of transmission
- Children and COVID-19 vaccines
- Q&A

Stop COVID-19 in Kids

School-based vaccine education outreach to build trust and empower families

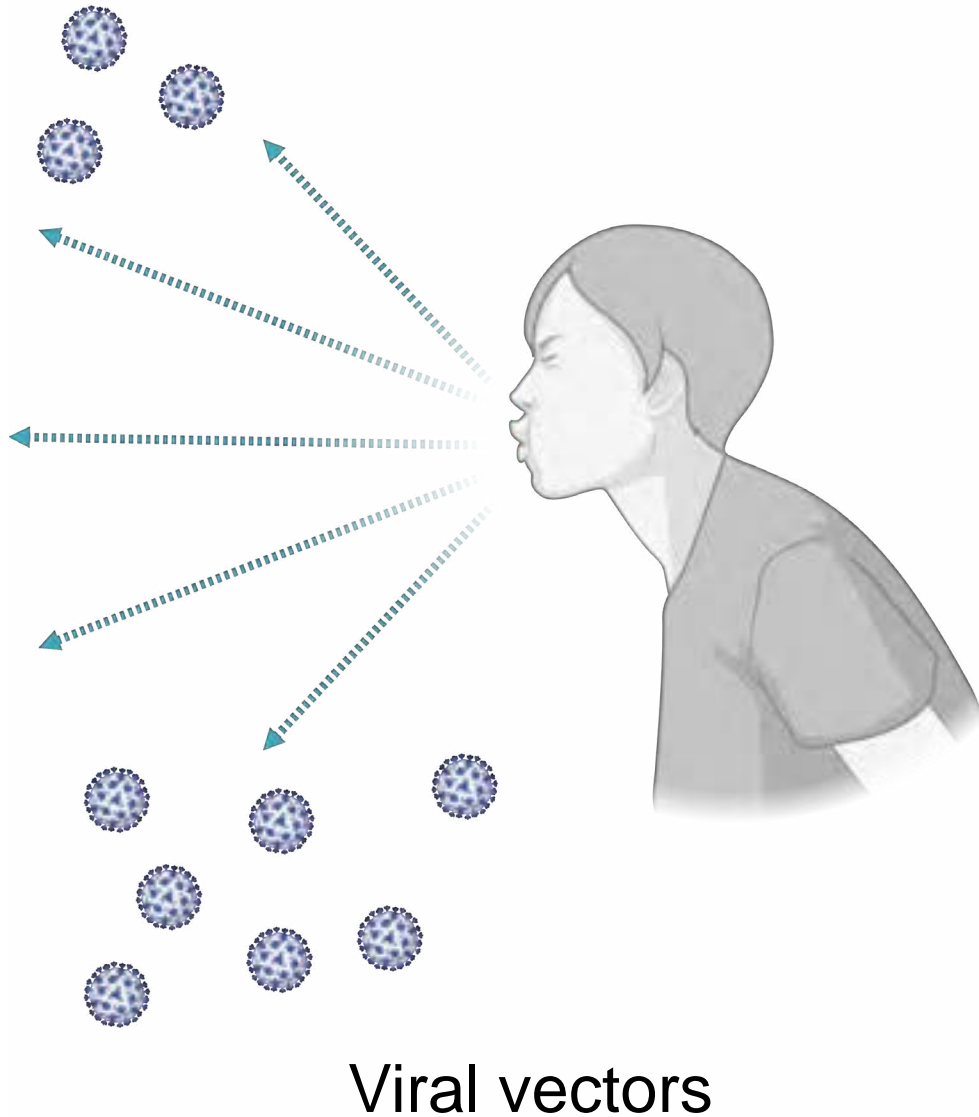


SARS-CoV-2: The Virus Causing COVID-19



- Belongs to Coronavirus family
- Respiratory virus
- First recognized human-to-human spread in December 2019
- Global Pandemic declared March 11, 2020
- Lockdowns led to virtual education, no sports or extra-curriculars, mandates, no travel.
- Unique spike protein – target of vaccine

SARS-CoV-2: Transmission



- SARS-CoV-2 is a **respiratory virus**
- Spreads easily through air droplets
- Infected person coughs, droplets containing the virus spray out
- Droplets enter another person's nose or mouth, infecting them
- Transmits best in enclosed spaces, such as schools, buses, and restaurants....



COVID-19 Symptoms in Children

- Asymptomatic versus symptomatic
- Common symptoms include:
 - Fever/chills
 - Abdominal pain/nausea/vomiting
 - Joint/muscle pain
 - Fatigue
 - Sore throat, runny nose, congestion
 - Cough, shortness of breath
 - Headache
 - Loss of taste/smell



Preventing COVID-19

- Stay home when sick
- Masks
- Improve ventilation
- Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) and PCR testing, if able.
- Stay up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccines.
- Good handwashing and cough etiquette are important too.



Why Should Children Get Vaccinated?

COVID-19 vaccines decrease the risk of:

- COVID-19 infection
- Hospitalization due to COVID-19
- MIS-C (Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children)
- Long COVID

COVID-19 vaccines will also:

- Decrease transmission
- Protect family and community
- Help keep schools and extra-curricular activities open

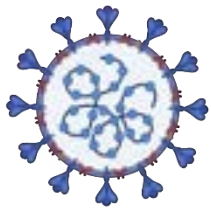
COVID-19 Vaccine Effectiveness

COVID-19 cumulative hospitalization rate for 5-11-year-olds kids was **33 per 100,000 population**; death rate in 0-18 yo individuals was **0.7 per 100,000 population**.

(from January 15, 2020 to March 11, 2023, Ontario)



Stop COVID-19 in Kids



Overall effectiveness in protecting 5-11-year-olds kids from severe outcomes (e.g.hospitalization) is around 80% after two doses of the vaccine.

(March 2023, Ontario)

The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was shown to be effective in protecting 12-18-year-olds from MIS-C, with an estimated effectiveness of **91%**.

(January 2022)



COVID-19 Vaccines for Children

SickKids[®]

Setting the Record Straight on mRNA Vaccines



- mRNA technology is **not** new.
- mRNA vaccines **cannot** change DNA.
- mRNA does **not** stay in the body.
- Do **not** contain microchips, metals, magnets, antibiotics, animal or fetal tissues and latex.
- One **cannot** get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- Do not impact fertility.



- Messengers carry instructions into our cells.
- Vaccines contain mRNA, lipids (fats), sugar and stabilizers.

mRNA Vaccines are Safe and Effective

Approved COVID-19 Vaccines: 5-11 years



Primary Series:

1. Pfizer 10 mcg – 2 doses; 8-week interval (preferred vaccine)
2. Moderna 50 mcg – 2 doses; 8-week interval

Boosters:

1. Pfizer Bivalent BA.4/5 – preferred booster
 2. Pfizer Monovalent
- Eligible 6 months after completion of primary series

Approved COVID-19 Vaccines: — 6 months-under 5 years



Primary Series:

1. Moderna 25 mcg – 2 dose primary series; 8-week interval

2. Pfizer 3 mcg – 3 dose primary series; 8-week intervals

➤ Get whichever one is available first!

➤ No time needed between COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines

Booster: not approved in Canada at this time

Approved COVID-19 Vaccines: 12-17 years



Primary Series:

1. Pfizer 30 mcg – 2 doses; 8-week interval (preferred vaccine)
2. Moderna 100 mcg – 2 doses; 8-week interval
3. Novavax – newly approved in Canada

Boosters: 6 months after previous dose

1. Pfizer Bivalent B.A.4/5 – preferred booster
2. Pfizer Monovalent
3. Moderna Monovalent



Side Effects: 6 months+ —

- Sore arm
- Irritability
- Fatigue
- Low-grade fever/chills
- Muscle or joint pain

*Tylenol or Advil may be given
as directed

What About Myocarditis?



- Myocarditis is inflammation of the heart muscle
- **Rare** side effect following COVID-19 vaccination (see table below)
- Most cases related to vaccination are mild and recovery is fast
- Treated with rest and NSAIDs (like Advil)
- Having a heart condition does not increase the likelihood of Myocarditis

AGE	Myocarditis % after second dose
6months – under 5 years	No reports
5-11 years	0.0006%
12-17 years	0.0099%



My Child Already Had COVID-19. Do They Still Need to be Vaccinated?

- Yes, a **complete** vaccination series and boosters are still recommended as it provides additional protection
- NACI recommends **8 weeks** between a COVID-19 infection and a primary series dose
- NACI recommends (for those 5+) **3-6 months** between a COVID-19 infection and a booster dose



CONTACT INFORMATION

- Email: stopcovid19.inkids@sickkids.ca

A young girl with dark hair is wearing a light blue surgical mask and a white t-shirt. She has a bandage on her right arm. The background is a solid light blue color. A white rectangular box with a black border is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text 'Thank you!' and the 'SickKids' logo.

Thank you!

SickKids



What is the importance of the booster dose?



Primary doses teach our immune system to **recognize** and **produce antibodies** against the virus

Booster shots are administered to **remind** the body's immune system **about the virus** it needs to defend against

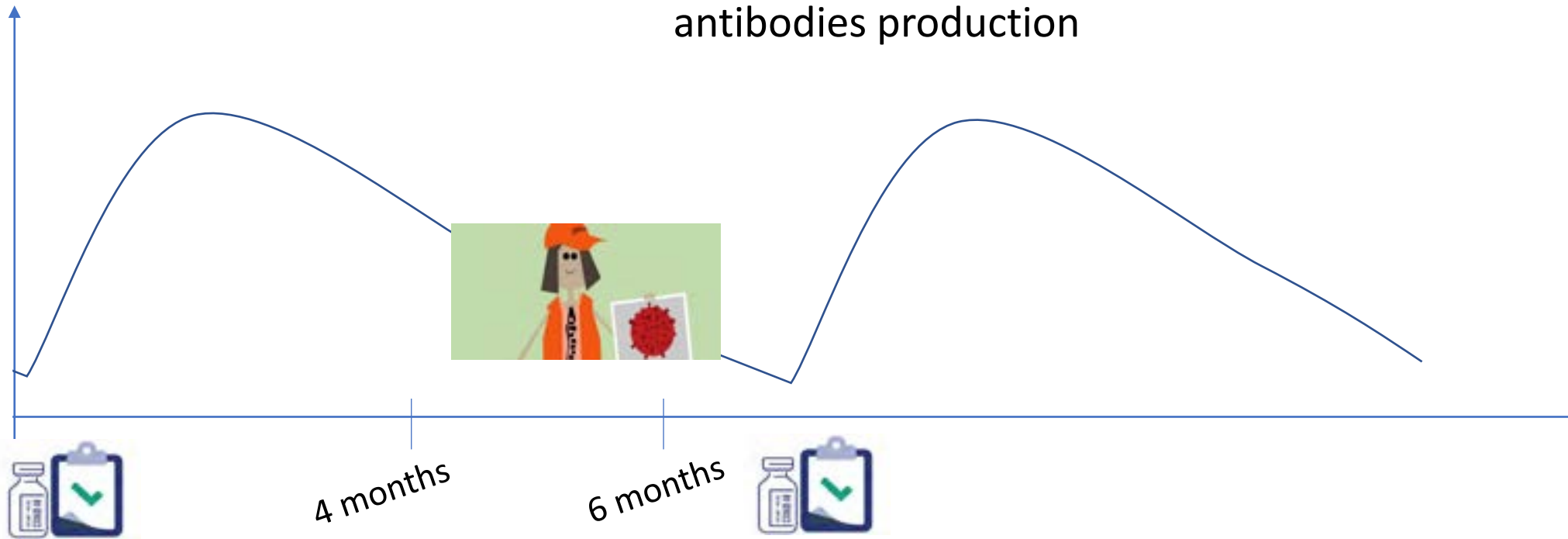
This improves or gives the immune system a boost



What is the importance of the booster dose?

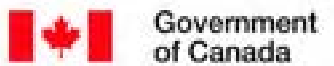
Antibodies after infection naturally decline over time and vaccination provides added protection, eliciting a new immune response

The same for kids who had already COVID-19; a complete vaccination series trigger an higher antibodies production





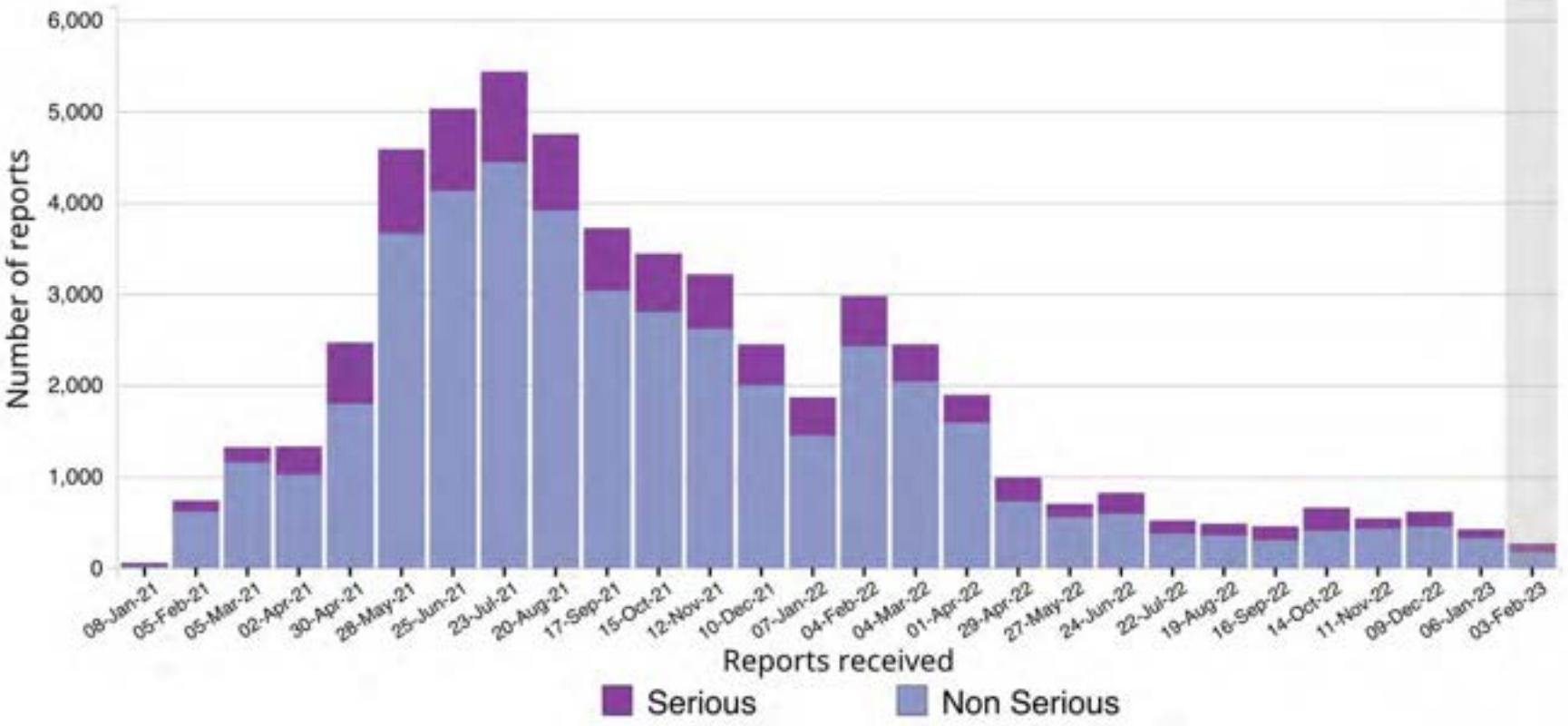
Third Round: Are COVID-19 Vaccine Safe?



Last update on Feb 17, 2023

43,500 were not serious
10,582 were serious

54,082
Total adverse event following immunization reports
(0.056% of all doses administered)



The rate of adverse event reports was lowest in the **5 to 11 year age group**

Also BIVALENT boosters have been demonstrated to be safe in 5-11 years old children



Are COVID-19 vaccines safe?

COVID-19 vaccines are **safe** and meet Health Canada's rigorous scientific standards for safety and manufacturing quality.



Through continued safety monitoring, COVID-19 vaccination has been found to be safe for children and teens.

The known risks of severe complications of COVID-19 outweigh the potential **rare** adverse reaction to vaccination.

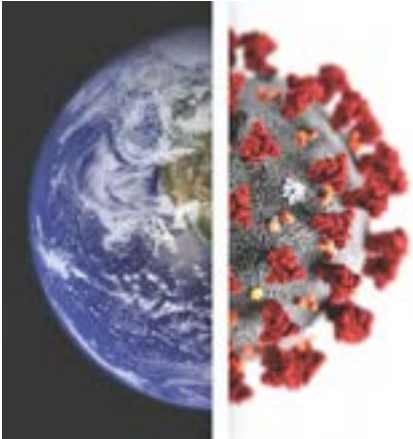


Are COVID-19 vaccines safe? How are COVID-19 vaccines monitored after vaccination?



Government of Canada

After a vaccine is authorized for use, the Health Canada monitors its safety and how well it works in people, including children → **post-market surveillance**



Assessing how vaccines work and their safety in the ‘real world’ helps us:



Adjust vaccine recommendations, as needed, such as booster doses



Guide vaccine policy and vaccine distribution

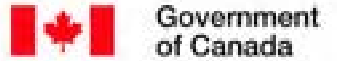


Inform development of vaccine technologies

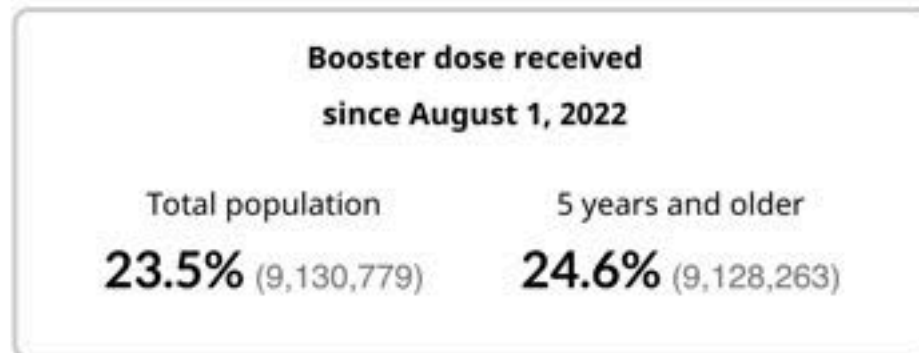
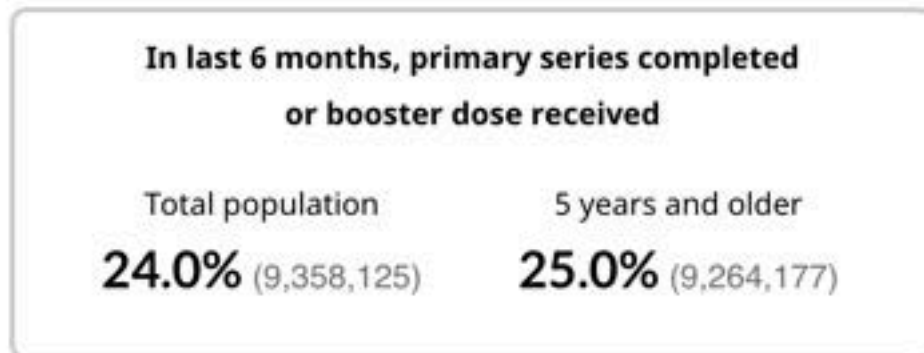


Are COVID-19 vaccines safe?

Millions of children in the world have received COVID-19 vaccines



Last updated on
February 3, 2023



Suggested resources where to find more information



BC Centre for Disease Control

Children and COVID-19 Vaccination

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/vaccines-children>



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

ImmunizeBC

COVID-19 vaccines (children 5 to 11 yrs)

<https://immunizebc.ca/question-categories/covid-19-vaccines-children-5-11>



Government
of Canada

Vaccines for children: COVID-19

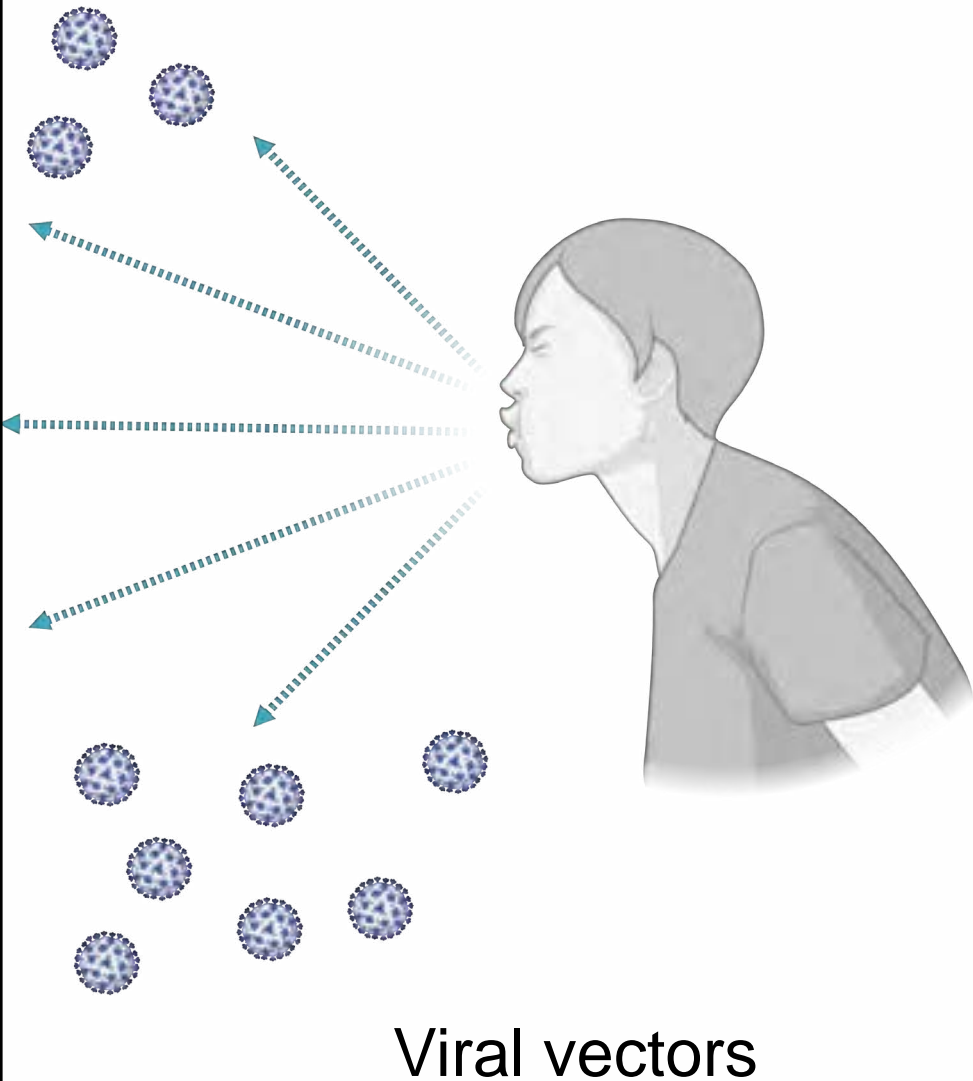
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/vaccination-children/covid-19.html>

SickKids | AboutKidsHealth

COVID-19

<https://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/COVID-19>

SARS-CoV-2: Transmission



SARS-CoV-2 is a **respiratory** virus



Spreads **easily through air droplets**



Infected **person coughs**, droplets containing the virus spray out



Droplets **enter another person's** nose or mouth, **infecting** them



Transmit **best in enclosed spaces**, such as schools, buses, and restaurants