



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc  
Commissioner

August 10, 2021

Dear Pediatrician Care Providers:

We are writing to ask again for your help in vaccinating adolescent New Yorkers against COVID-19. It is critical adolescents age 12 and older get vaccinated as soon as possible to be fully protected as the school year is starting. Parents consider you, their doctor and pediatric care provider, a trusted source of information about COVID-19 vaccines. We need your help to increase vaccination rates in adolescents.

The City is conducting outreach to provide adolescents and parents with accurate information about COVID-19 vaccines. We are also supporting vaccination pop-up sites across the city and launching a public media campaign to encourage adolescents and families to get vaccinated.

What you can do to help with these efforts:

- **Reach out to and engage the families you care for.** They want to hear from you that vaccination is safe and effective.
- **For vaccinating providers, take every opportunity to administer vaccine,** even if you cannot use the remaining doses in a vial. Coadminister COVID-19 vaccine with other vaccines needed to bring adolescents up-to-date and in compliance with school immunization requirements.
- **For nonvaccinating providers, help adolescents find a Pfizer vaccination site.** See [here](#) for details on finding a site, scheduling in-home appointments, and other logistics.
- **Enroll in the COVID-19 Vaccination Program.** Parents trust you to vaccinate their children. Enrolling is easy, and Pfizer vaccine can now be ordered in as few as 150 doses.

Tools and materials to support you:

- [COVID-19 Vaccination Program FAQ](#) provides answers to enrollment questions
- [Speaking With Parents About COVID-19 Adolescent Vaccination](#) provides tips for speaking with parents and answering frequently asked questions.
- Fact sheets, like [FAQs About COVID-19 Vaccines for Families and Educators](#), can be given to adolescent patients and their parents. See [here](#) for other fact sheets.
- Visit [nyc.gov/health/covidvaccineprovider](https://nyc.gov/health/covidvaccineprovider) and [nyc.gov/covidvaccine](https://nyc.gov/covidvaccine) for up-to-date resources and information.

Thank you for your partnership in this historic vaccination campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jane R. Zucker'.

Jane R. Zucker, MD, MSc  
Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Immunization