TOOLS FOR PRACTICE #303 | November 24, 2021



CO-KID: Covid vaccine for kids

CLINICAL QUESTION

What are the benefits and harms of the available COVID-19 vaccines for children and adolescents?

BOTTOM LINE

Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine is 91% effective in preventing symptomatic COVID-19 in children 5-11 years. Both Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna are 100% effective in adolescents at ~2 months. Real world evidence might differ. Both vaccines appear safe with primarily injection site reactions.

EVIDENCE

- Study participants mostly Caucasian and healthy, 2 doses given 21-28 days apart. Median follow-up ~2 months. Cases were symptomatic, laboratory confirmed COVID-19. Severe COVID-19 is defined as cardiac, respiratory, other end organ failure, or ICU admission.
 - Children:
 - Pfizer/BioNTech: Multi-country, blinded, randomized controlled trial (RCT) of 2268 children 5-11 years old.¹
 - Efficacy: ≥7 days post second dose.
 - COVID-19 cases: 3 versus 16 (placebo), relative risk reduction (RRR): 91%.¹
 - Severe COVID-19: None.¹
 - Most cases occurred when Delta variant was predominant strain.¹⁻³
 - Solicited adverse effects: Similar between 1st and 2nd doses.
 - Localized pain ~73%; redness: ~17%.
 - Fatigue: ~37% versus 28% (placebo).
 - Myalgia: 10% versus 7% (placebo).
 - Serious adverse effects: 0 versus 1 (placebo).
 - Myocarditis or anaphylaxis: None.
 - Moderna: Enrolling 6-months to 11-year-olds.⁴
 - Only immunogenicity currently reported.⁵