



SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF
CELIAC DISEASE

Society for the Study of Celiac Disease Statement on COVID-19 Vaccines and Children

With the news that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have authorized the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for those ages 5-11, we have received inquiries about the advisability of proceeding with vaccination in this age group. **We fully agree with the CDC recommendation that everyone ages 5 and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against COVID-19.** This includes individuals with celiac disease.

Although the risk of severe COVID-19 is far lower in children as compared to adults, widespread transmission of this virus, particularly since the development of the Delta variant, has resulted in thousands of hospitalizations and hundreds of deaths among children in the United States. Vaccination in this age group has been shown to be highly safe and effective, and is the strongest tool we have to prevent transmission and severe illness. To date, there is no evidence to suggest that people with celiac disease are at higher risk of severe COVID-19 or of the vaccine having a different safety or effectiveness profile in people with celiac disease. Additionally, there is no gluten in any of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines. Patients with concerns about vaccination and their particular circumstance should speak with their health care provider. We urge the public to proceed with COVID-19 vaccination promptly.

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