Parents, Do You Have Questions About Your Child Receiving the

COVID-19 vaccine?

1 **Is the COVID-19 vaccine safe for my child?**
Yes, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends vaccination for everyone, 12 years and older, given the risk of COVID-19 illness and related, possible severe complications.

2 **Why should my child get the COVID-19 vaccine?**
COVID-19 vaccines help minimize the risk of contracting the virus and protects kids from getting seriously ill, even if they do get COVID-19.

3 **What vaccine is available for my child to receive?**
The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is now available for everyone ages 12 years and older. The potential benefits of COVID-19 vaccination outweigh the potential risks.

4 **Will my child need to get both vaccine doses?**
Yes, children's immune systems respond to the vaccine similarly to that of older teens and young adults. To get the most protection, your child will need 2 shots given 3 weeks (21 days) apart.

5 **Can my child get the vaccine in unison with other vaccines?**
Yes, your child can get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines at the same time. Talk with your healthcare provider to learn more.

6 **Will my child experience side effects after the vaccine?**
Your child may experience some side effects such as a sore arm, pain, or redness at the site of the injection, as well as, tiredness, nausea, chills, fever, or a headache. These symptoms will subside.

7 **What can I do if my child's symptoms do not go away?**
Call your healthcare provider if your child's symptoms worsen 24 hours after vaccination or if their symptoms worry you.

8 **Do I need to pay for my child's COVID-19 vaccines?**
No, the federal government is providing COVID-19 vaccines free of charge to all people living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.

For more information, visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention:
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/adolescents.html

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MERCED COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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