**Children’s Vaccine Update (20 November 2021)**

The US Food & Drug Agency (FDA) issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) to immunize children ages 5-11 years with the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (“Comirnaty”). As with adults, 2 doses are given 3 weeks apart; the dosage is lower (⅓ or 10 μg vs. 30 μg for adults). Berkshire County has received vaccine. Clinics were scheduled in most public elementary schools beginning November 12. Hoosac Valley (Adams-Cheshire) held its 1st-shot clinic at the Middle/High School on November 15, when 90 of the 461 eligible students were vaccinated. The 2nd-shot clinic is scheduled for December 6. Northern Berkshire Pediatrics has also been very active in this campaign, vaccinating 600 children in our area. Vaccination by your family’s pediatrician may be the preferable option for you.

***Additional Vaccine Information:***

* + You may choose to sign up for any available clinic in the county. See the full schedule at <https://getvaccinatedberkshires.org/pedi-schedule>. Parents have also been taking advantage of clinics in other communities – it’s great to have options. You may also register at <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/berkshire>.
  + Please note the requirements regarding permission & adult accompaniment.
  + Children turning 12 between their 2 doses may receive either dosage.
  + CDC also recommends vaccination for children who previously had Covid-19. However, each family should consult their own pediatrician.
  + You may also register via the Berkshire Health System’s patient portal:   
    <https://berkshirepatientportal.com/> or call 855-262-5465.
  + Community Health Program mobile van schedule: <https://www.chpberkshires.org/mobile/> or call 413-528-0457.