

STAYING HEALTHY ACROSS GENERATIONS: Vaccines are Essential for All Ages

Grandparents are Essential Caregivers

Grandparents are often primary caregivers or routinely supporting parents.



8 MILLION CHILDREN live in households headed by a grandparent or other relatives



1 IN 4 CHILDREN UNDER 5 are being cared for by grandparents on a regular basis



1.3 MILLION GRANDPARENTS in the labor force are responsible for a grandchild living with them

Impact of COVID-19 on Grandparents and Older Caregivers

The risk for severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age. Older adults have to balance the health risk of exposure to COVID-19 with consequences of social isolation and financial stability.



8 OUT OF 10 COVID-19 DEATHS reported in the U.S. are adults 65+



20 MILLION ADULTS OVER 55 have jobs that require them to leave home, putting them at greater risk for contracting COVID-19



49% CHILD CARE SLOTS may be permanently lost due to COVID-19 which may leave grandparents as primary back-up care

Vaccines Aren't Just for Kids – They Protect All Generations

Staying up to date on vaccines for the flu, pneumonia and whooping cough are important to protect both older adults and children – and soon a vaccine for COVID-19 will also be critical for both age groups.



Research on infants with whooping cough found **83% WERE EXPOSED** by the baby's immediate or extended family



Flu, pneumococcal disease, shingles and whooping cough **COST \$27 BILLION TO TREAT EACH YEAR** in adults over the age of 50



ONLY 68% OF ADULTS 65+ were vaccinated for the flu even though **90% OF FLU-RELATED DEATHS AND HOSPITALIZATIONS** were among that age group

Grandparenting Today Requires Taking Care of Yourself in Order to Be There for Children



TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.

Grandparents are a great resource to encourage other grandparents to get vaccinated – second only to their healthcare provider. To get specific information on the vaccines for you, take the [CDC Adult Vaccine Quiz](#).



PROTECT THE NEXT GENERATION.

Experts agree on an [immunization schedule](#) for children. Timing is important, even in the midst of a pandemic.



SHARE YOUR STORY.

Write a letter to the editor, post on social media, or present at a local community group about the importance of vaccines for older adults. www.BandageOfHonor.org



STAY INFORMED.

Soon there will be new vaccine(s) available to beat COVID-19 – [know the facts](#), vaccines save lives.