CHENANGO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MARCAS W. FLINDT
Public Health Director

5 Court Street, Norwich, New York 13815

GEORGE SENECK
Chenango County Board of
Supervisors, Chairman

HEALTH EDUCATION DIVISION

Phone: (607) 337-1660 ✦ Fax: (607) 337-1709

PRESS RELEASE

Date:
Release Date: 9/8/21
Contact: Nursing Division

Should I get a COVID-19 Vaccine for my 12-18 Year Old Child?

The answer is yes. CDC recommends everyone 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccination to help protect against COVID-19. Widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic. Children 12 years and older are able to get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine at this time.

Although fewer children have been infected with COVID-19 compared to adults, children can:

- Be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19
- Get sick from COVID-19
- Spread COVID-19 to others

It is also important to protect unvaccinated children. Children between the ages of 2 and 12 should wear a mask in public spaces and around others who are not within their household. Going back to school can increase your child's risk of catching or transmitting the coronavirus. The highly contagious delta variant of the coronavirus is a concern among those who have not been vaccinated, including children. The CDC has updated its recommendations for COVID-19 prevention in K-12 schools and recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status, as well as physical distancing and other precautions.

Having your teen or child vaccinated as soon as he or she is eligible will help prevent infections and continued spread of COVID-19. It may prevent your child from missing out on activities, sports, school attendance, and other things that they regularly enjoy doing. You are not just protecting your child, but you are helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

<u>To Find a COVID-19 Vaccine for Your Child</u>

Check your local pharmacy's website to see if vaccination walk-ins or appointments are available.

Check with your child's healthcare provider about whether they offer COVID-19 vaccination.

Contact Chenango County health department for more information at 607-337-1660 or visit our website vaccine page for more information at https://www.co.chenango.ny.us/public-health/nursing/covid19.php#tab-3

Find a COVID-19 Vaccine: Search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829. You may also call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

For more information please visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/adolescents.html

Persons with questions or requiring additional information may contact the Chenango County Health Department at **(607) 337-1660**.

Promoting and protecting health, safety, and the quality of life in Chenango County