

## NEWS RELEASE

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## OCCHD Offering Vaccines to Children Under 6 Beginning Thursday

(Oklahoma City, Okla.) – Starting Thursday, three OCCHD clinic locations will offer COVID-19 vaccine doses to children 6 months and older.

Parents and caregivers can now get their children 6 months and older vaccinated to better protect them from COVID-19. All children, including children who have already had COVID-19, should get vaccinated.

The Pfizer vaccine is a three-dose vaccine series: the second three to eight weeks after the first dose, and the third dose more than eight weeks after the second.

The Moderna series is complete with two doses given at least a month apart.

"This is the perfect opportunity for parents to make their appointment to catch up on all childhood vaccines, which can be given at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine," said Staceee Hoye, Chief of Clinical Services. "Most schools, daycares, and colleges require proof of childhood immunizations to attend. Parents can beat the back-to-school rush."

Common side effects parents can expect for their child are a sore arm, headache, fever, and fatigue. Children 6 to 23 months (about 2 years) may be fussy or sleepy. Symptoms usually



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occur one to two days after vaccination and are mostly mild and resolve after a few days. Parents should contact their primary care provider if they have any specific concerns about side effects from a shot.

People wanting a vaccine for their children at the NE clinic, 2700 NE 63rd, can call 405-419-

4200. Residents needing an appointment at OCCHD's Southern Oaks Clinic, 6728 S Hudson

Ave., can call 405-419-4119. Clients wanting an appointment at the OCCHD's West clinic, 4330

NW 10th St., should call 405-419-4150.

Walk-ins are welcome at all clinics, though appointments are preferred. All clinics are on the

Embark bus line.

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About the Oklahoma City Health Department

The Oklahoma City Health Department was set up in 1910 to deal with the basic sanitation and disease control problems of Oklahoma City's rapidly growing new community. In 1939, Oklahoma County set up its own much needed health department. The two departments merged in 1954.

The Oklahoma City-County Health Department was one of the first public health departments in the entire nation to be awarded accreditation status by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>.

To achieve accreditation, the OKC-County Health Department underwent a rigorous, multifaceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to make sure it met or exceeded a specific set of quality standards and measures. More than 125 health departments originally applied for accreditation, and the OKC-County Health Department was one of the first 11 to achieve accreditation.

OCCHD currently has multiple locations around Oklahoma County, with its main headquarters found at 2600 NE 63rd Street in Oklahoma City.



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For more information, please visit <u>www.OCCHD.org</u>.