

## Questions from Joint Town Hall Chat

1. Can you (briefly) explain why these vaccines are not approved for those under the age of 16 years /18 years ?

Per the County website, “The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is only authorized for administration in patients aged 16 years and older. The Moderna vaccine is only authorized in patients aged 18 years and older. Clinical trials are underway for children, but at this point there is no vaccine approved for children.”
2. Do we know an eta or if they are testing on kids yet?

Pfizer is currently in clinical trials with ages 12 to 15. Moderna is still enrolling for their clinical trial of ages 12 to 17. Current projections are - it is possible that one or both companies might have their vaccine approved for these age groups by the end of 2021.
3. Are vaccinated people still able to spread covid19?

Per SCC county, “While clinical trials showed that the vaccine is about 95% effective at preventing symptomatic illness from COVID-19, less is known about the vaccines’ effectiveness at preventing transmission. In other words, getting vaccinated will help protect you from COVID-19, but it may not prevent you from spreading it. This is why it is important to continue wearing face coverings and maintaining social distance, to prevent potential spread to others who have not been vaccinated.”
4. What about the Johnson & Johnson shot?

Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine, AKA *Ensemble*, in partnership with Johnson & Johnson, is a single-dose shot that is currently applying for EUA. It was studied in ages 18 and older. Please check out this link for very good information of its effectiveness and potential use:  
[Johnson & Johnson Announces Single-Shot Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Met Primary Endpoints in Interim Analysis of its Phase 3 ENSEMBLE Trial](#)
5. Can school nurses eventually give to District employees?

This is currently being discussed at the county level.
6. Can the nurses discuss the safety of reopening classrooms?

The state has addressed the safety/science of reopening schools: [Evidence Summary: TK-6 Schools and COVID-19 Transmission](#)  
In summary, when mitigation efforts are in place, the risk of transmission at school is low. They have not seen schools as the main source of transmission in a community.
7. Where will we be getting our vaccines? through our health providers or SCCOE?

Per SCC, “Like other vaccines, many people will receive COVID-19 vaccination through their primary care provider. All large health systems including Kaiser, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, the County’s hospitals and clinics, Stanford Healthcare, and some smaller community clinics will be allocated vaccines to vaccinate their patients as they become eligible. We also expect that other entities like the large pharmacy chains (Walgreens, CVS, Costco, Walmart, etc.) may eventually offer COVID-19 vaccination to eligible members of the public.”
8. To nurses, why aren't the people who have to be onsite being tested regularly?

Monthly testing on asymptomatic individuals is the recommendation. There are multiple free testing sites throughout the county.

9. How will we find out when/where we can get vaccinated as school employees?  
Please view Santa Clara County Public Health Department's website for the latest information on immunizations: [www.sccfreevax.org](http://www.sccfreevax.org)
10. How will we prove that we are educators?  
The County has yet to address this officially, but have alluded that educators might have to show their teachers badge or pay stub.
11. How often will the teachers and staff be tested once we go back to school and where will they be tested?  
Testing recommendations from the state are based on the tier level (i.e. purple, red, orange) we are in as a county. Our county recommends "surveillance" testing once per month, along with testing symptomatic individuals or those who have had close contact to a positive case.
12. When "educators" turn happens, does that cover everyone who works at a school site? contractors too?  
This is currently being discussed at the county level, but will likely include all district employees.

For more information please see: [www.sccfreevax.org](http://www.sccfreevax.org)

The up-to-date FAQ on the county website:

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/COVID19-vaccine-information-for-public.aspx#vaccinefaq>