

COVID WEBINAR

COVID-19 Pandemic Response for Individuals with Disabilities: Lessons Learned



**NATIONAL
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The National Nurse-Led Care Consortium (NNCC) is a non-profit membership organization that supports nurse-led care and nurses at the front lines of care.

NNCC supports comprehensive, community-based primary care and public health nursing through policy and advocacy, program development and management, technical assistance and support, and direct, nurse-led healthcare services.

Learn more at NurseLedCare.org

CDC COVID Vaccine Project Goals



Q: Can I get the vaccine if I don't have insurance?

A: Yes, Covid-19 vaccines are 100% free in the United States.

- Empower nurses with necessary information to engage care teams and communities about COVID-19 vaccines.
- Provide learning opportunities to share up-to-date guidance, support peer engagement among nursing colleagues, and strengthen the nursing role.
- Amplify the nursing voice by featuring nurse champions through our podcast and other media outlets.

Learn more at NurseLedCare.org



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- The Moderator will either send a typed response or answer your questions live at the end of the presentation.

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- Certificate will arrive within 4 weeks of completing the survey.

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COVID-19 Pandemic Response for Individuals with Disabilities: Lessons Learned

GLORIA JONES DINKINS DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Objectives

1. Define disability (Intellectual/developmental IDD).
2. Discuss the COVID-19 pandemic response for individuals with IDD.
3. State disability-inclusive guidance and policies in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

What is the Definition of Disability under American Disabilities Act (ADA)?

The American Disability Act defines disability as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment.

(ADA.gov)

Intellectual Disability

Characterized by significant limitations in both intellectual functioning and in adaptive behavior as expressed in conceptual, social and practical adaptive skills. Originates in the developmental period which is defined operationally as before the age of 22.

(AAIDD,2022)

Developmental Disability

Severe, chronic disability of an individual who has a mental or physical impairment by age 22. Likely to continue indefinitely and results in substantial functional limitations in three or more areas of major life activity.

(Schalock, Lukasson, Tassè, 2021)

ANA Position Statement: Nurse's Role in Providing Ethically and Developmentally Appropriate Care to People With Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The American Nurses Association believes that nurses must provide compassionate, comprehensive, and person-centered care to all people, inclusive of at-risk populations such as IDD who experience health disparities across practice settings. Nurses are well positioned to advocate for the rights of people with IDD.

(ANA, 2021)

World Health Organization (WHO)

- ▶ Provide technical assistance to countries.
- ▶ Sets international health standards and provide guidance on important health issues.
- ▶ Coordinate and support international responses to health emergencies such as disease outbreaks.
- ▶ Promote and advocate for better global health.

(KFF, 2022)



Timeline

COVID-19 Response for Individuals with Disabilities

2020

March 11

WHO

Declares COVID a global pandemic.

2020

December 11

FDA

Issued the first emergency use authorization (EUA) for use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in persons aged 16 years and older.

2020

December 20

Advisory Committee on Immunizations (ACIP)

Provided guidance on populations groups recommended for vaccinations (IDD community not included).

2021-

January 12

Disability Advocacy Groups

Urged CDC to prioritize IDD communities in COVID-19 response.

2021-

April 14

ACL & CDC Partner

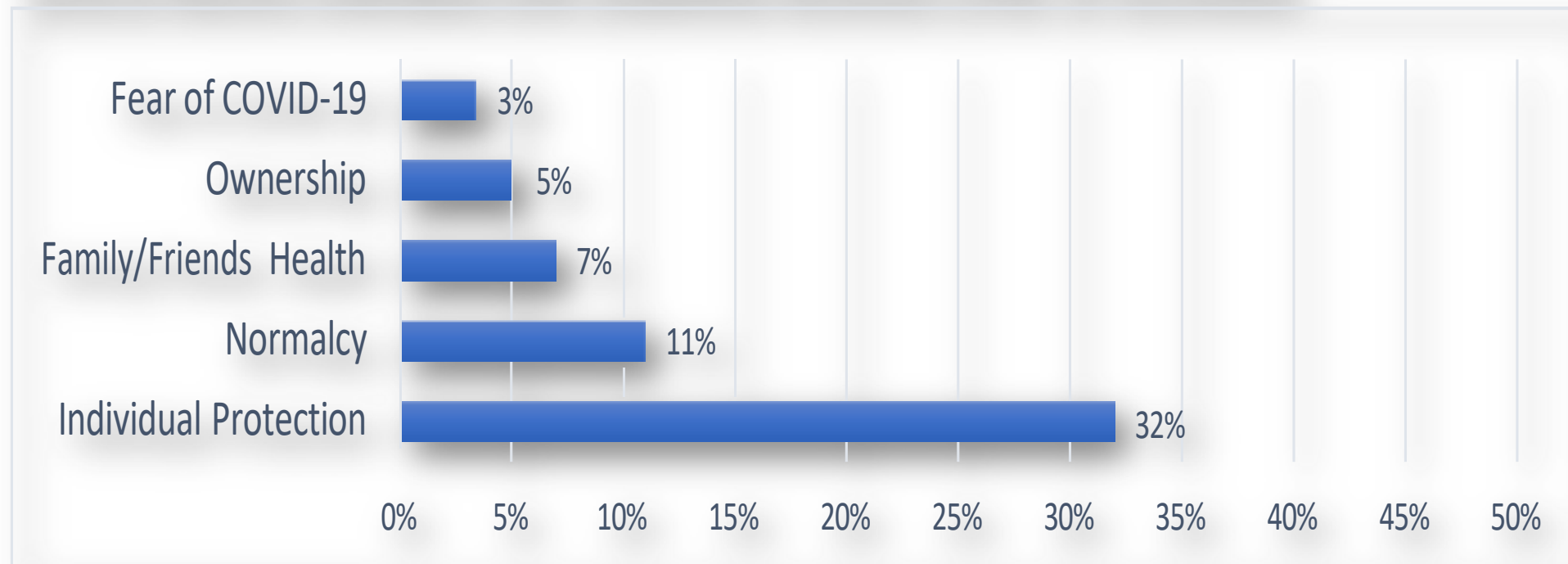
Administration for Community Living received funding to increase vaccine access for people with disabilities.



Understanding Why Persons with Disabilities Received the COVID-19 Vaccination

General Reasons Individuals with Disabilities Received COVID-19 Vaccination (AAHD, 2021)

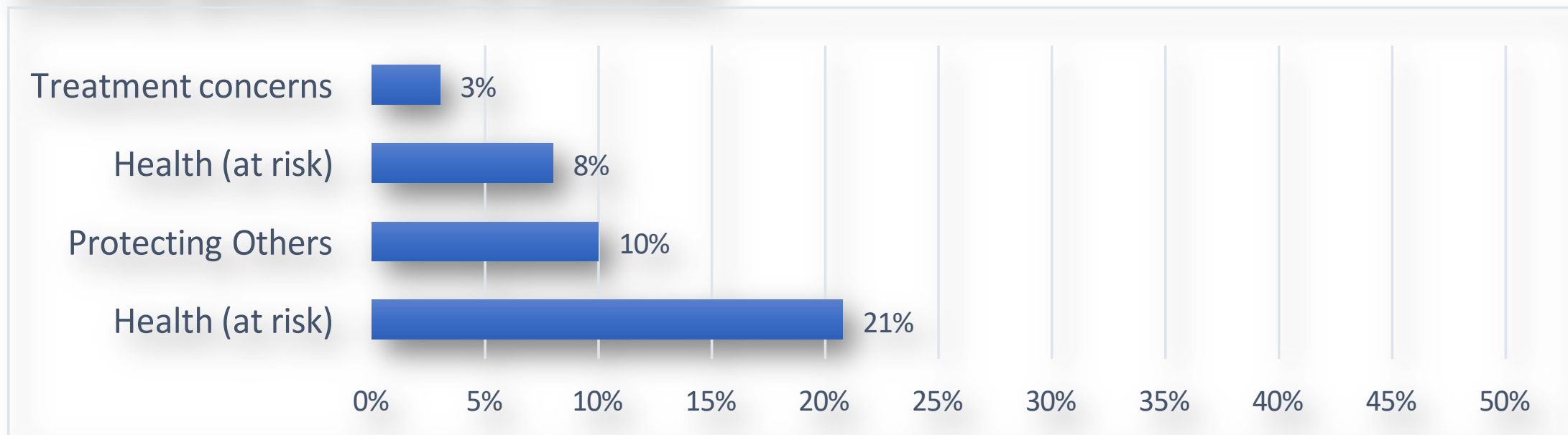
General Reasons Individuals with Disabilities Received COVID-19 Vaccination



Disability-Specific Reasons for Vaccination

(AAHD, 2021)

Disability-Specific Reasons for Vaccination



CDC Updates Guidance and Adds IDD to List of Conditions at Increased Risk from COVID-19

- ▶ In mid-February (almost two years into the pandemic) the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) acknowledged for the first time, based on current evidence that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have an increased risk of severe disease from COVID-19. People with some types of disabilities may be more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 because of underlying medical conditions, living in congregate settings, or systemic health and social inequities.
- ▶ The list includes people with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), cerebral palsy, birth defects, spinal cord injuries, learning disabilities, and any type of disability that makes it more difficult to do certain activities or interact with the world around them, including people who need help with self-care or daily activities.
- ▶ Of note, prior to this change, Down syndrome was the only disability mentioned but there was a note that those with other conditions could be affected too.

Guidance on Long COVID as a Disability Under the ADA, Section 504, and Section 1557

- ▶ Considering the rise of long COVID as a persistent and significant health issue, the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice have joined together to provide this guidance.
- ▶ Long COVID can be a disability under Titles II (state and local government) and III (public accommodations) of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504),⁴ and Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Section 1557).

New Actions to Address the Needs of People with Disabilities in Response to and Recovery from COVID-19

- ▶ The Biden Administration recognized the COVID-19 pandemic had tremendous impacts on disabled individuals and has resulted in new members of the disability community.
- ▶ The US government released key civil rights guidance to protect disabled individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic or other public health emergency, prioritized Long COVID services supports and research in the context of disability.
- ▶ The Biden Administration reinforced its commitment to implementing policies and developing additional policies in close collaboration with the disability community.

Lessons Learned

- ▶ IDD community be prioritized in response plans during outbreaks, pandemics, and other national emergencies (equitable access to resources).
- ▶ Partnerships between local public health and community-based organizations that serve people with disabilities be strengthened.
- ▶ Disability-inclusive response by including disability advocacy organizations and or persons with disabilities serve as experts in public health emergency preparedness planning and response programs.
- ▶ Guidance be accessible in all formats (Braille to simplified text, ASL) for people with various types of disabilities.
- ▶ Data collection be inclusive of persons with disabilities across all data systems to characterize and understand its impact.

Quote

“There is no greater disability in society than the inability to see a person as more.”

- Robert M. Hensel

References

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ANA Ethics Advisory Board, (October 20, 2020). ANA Position Statement: nurse's role in providing ethically and developmentally appropriate care to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities." OJIN: The Online Journal Issues in Nursing Vol. 25, No. 3.

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Kaiser Family Foundation (May 19, 2022). The U.S government and world health organization. <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/fact-sheet/the-u-s-government-and-the-world-health-organization/>

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Schalock, L.R., Luckasson, R., Tassè J.M., (2021). Intellectual disability: definition, diagnosis, classification and system of support, 12 Edition [Webinar]. American Association on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities. <https://www.aaid.org/education/education-archive/2021/01/28/default-calendar/intellectual-disability-definition-diagnosis-classification-and-systems-of-supports-12th-edition>

White House Briefing Room (n.d.) FACT SHEET: Administration announces new actions to address the needs of people with Disabilities and older adults in response to and recovery from COVID-19. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/02/24/fact-sheet-administration-announces-new-actions-to-address-the-needs-of-people-with-disabilities-and-older-adults-i>

Q&A



COVID-19 UPDATES & RESOURCES

Bivalent COVID-19 Boosters Now Available

You are now “up to date” if you have completed a primary series **and** received the most recent booster dose recommended for you by CDC.

It is safe to receive both a COVID-19 vaccine and a flu vaccine at the same visit. CDC and ACIP recommend this practice

Learn when you can get a booster using [CDC's COVID-19 booster tool](#)



At-a-Glance

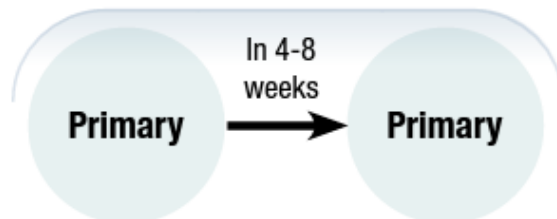
COVID-19 Vaccination Schedule for Most People

(People who are NOT Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised)



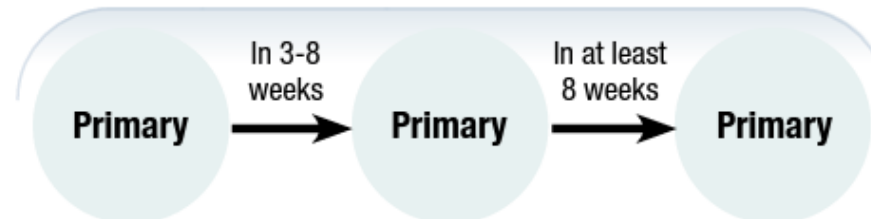
People ages 6 months through 4 years

Moderna



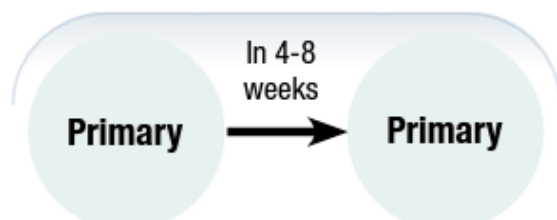
-OR-

Pfizer-BioNTech



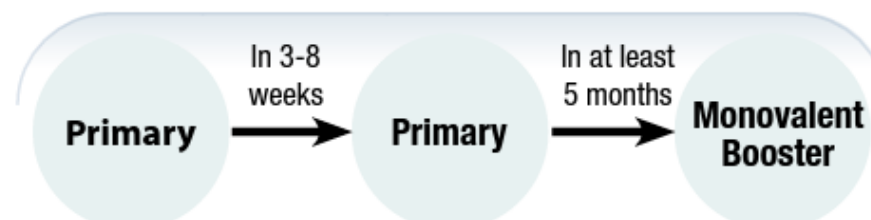
People ages 5 through 11 years

Moderna



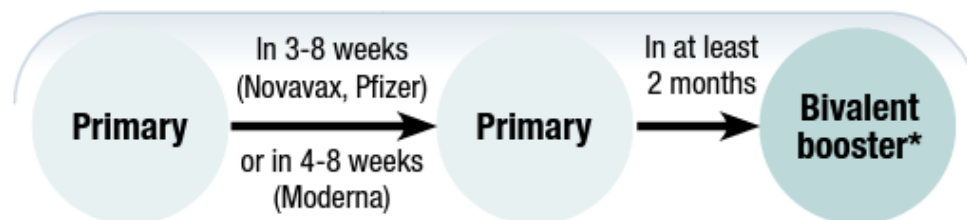
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Pfizer-BioNTech

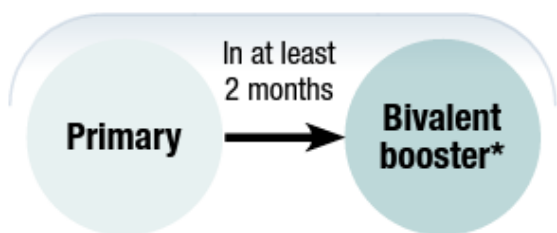


People ages 12 years and older

Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech



People ages 18 years and older who previously received Janssen primary series dose[†]



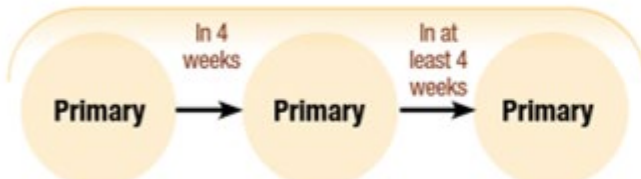
For more specific clinical guidance, see:

- [Pre-exposure prophylaxis](#)
- [Interim COVID-19 Immunization Schedule](#)
- [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Approved or Authorized in the United States](#)



People ages 6 months through 4 years

Moderna



Pfizer-BioNTech



-OR-

People ages 5 years through 11 years

Moderna



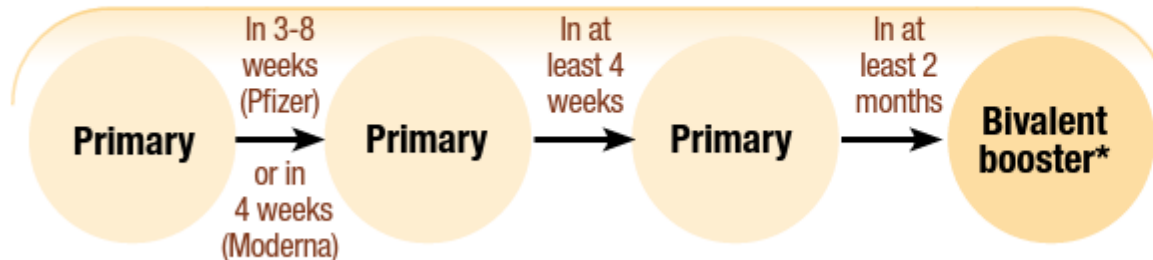
Pfizer-BioNTech



-OR-

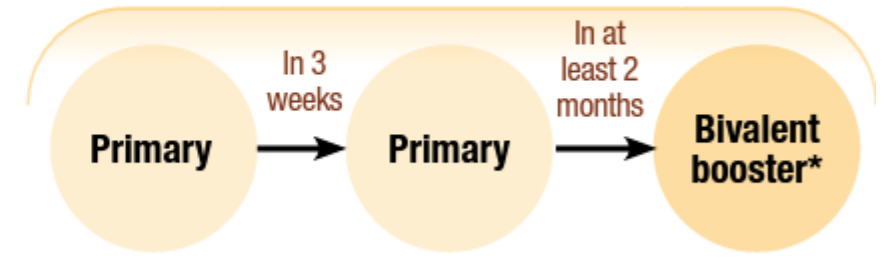
People ages 12 years and older

Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech

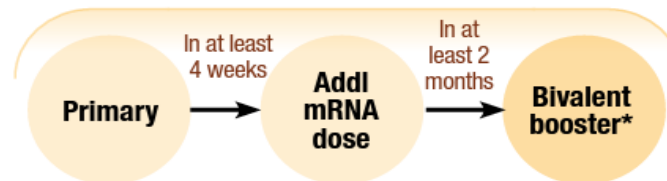


-OR-

Novavax



People ages 18 years and older who previously received Janssen primary series dose†



Find a COVID-19 Vaccine Near You

Go to [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)

1. **Enter your Zip Code**
2. **Select the vaccine(s) you are eligible for**
3. **Get connected to CDC guidance**



The Disability Information and Access Line (DIAL)

Help with COVID-19 vaccinations and testing for people with disabilities

Call 888-677-1199 or [start a chat](#) Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Eastern),
or email DIAL@usaginganddisability.org



Help finding
local vaccination
locations



Assistance with
vaccination
appointments



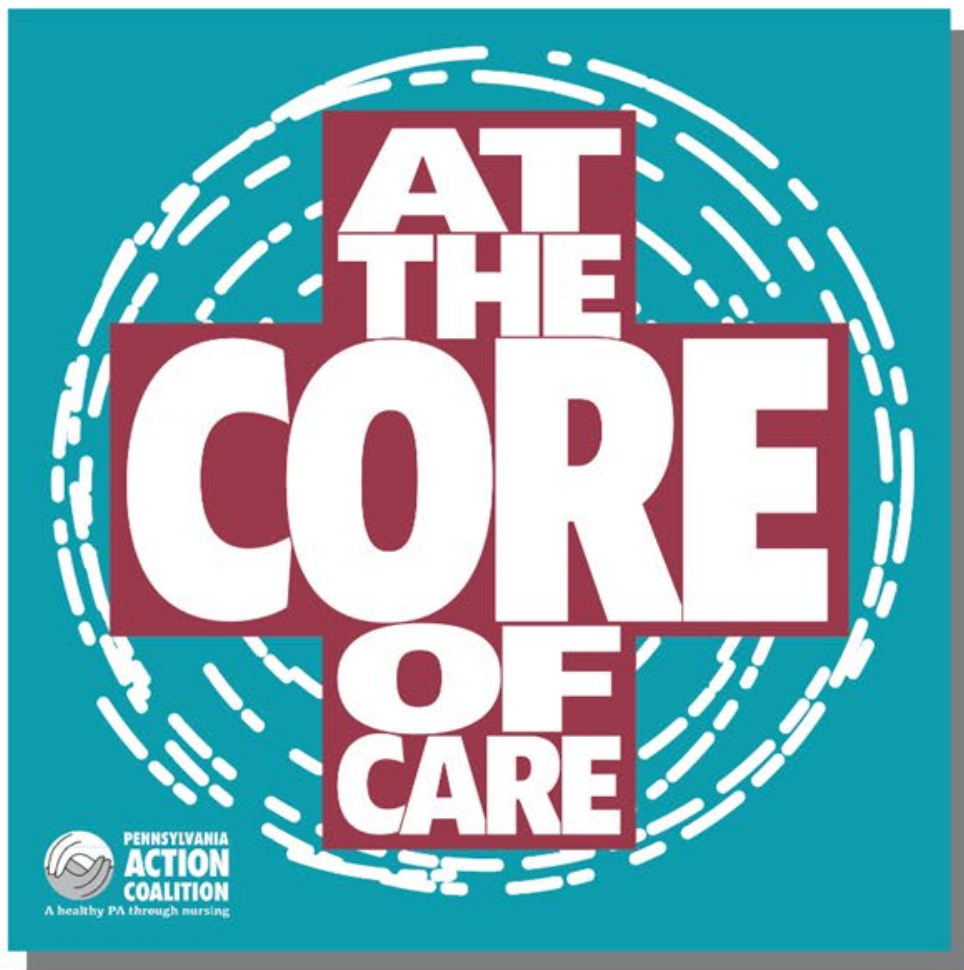
Connecting
callers to local
support services



Answering
common vaccine
questions



Locating
resources to
address concerns



Listen on

Apple Podcasts



Nurses make change happen.

Be a part of history.

This toolkit was created to give nurses the tools to do their part in the national vaccine effort. It is designed to help you decrease vaccine hesitancy and increase vaccination rates in your community.

<https://vaccinetoolkkit.phmc.org/>

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