

P-PARENT A-ACTION N-NETWORK

Our goal is to educate and advocate for the health of our communities by becoming champions of vaccine safety and effectiveness.

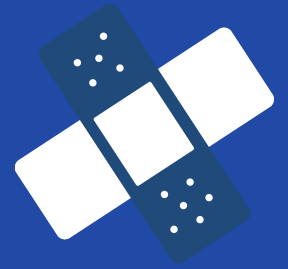
Brought to you by:

- Nurture KC - www.nurturekc.org
- The Mid America Immunization Coalition (MAIC) - www.nurturekc.org/solutions/immunization



1. Protect Immunizations

Routine immunizations save lives and protect our communities. There are efforts recently in both KS and MO to alter the requirements and exemptions for childhood vaccines for diseases like polio, measles, and mumps under the guise that vaccines are unsafe.



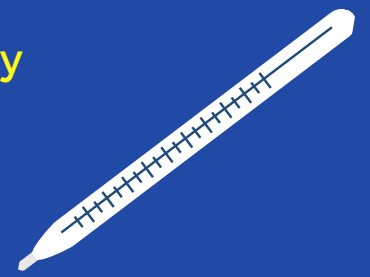
2. COVID-19 Vaccine

When protected with the COVID-19 vaccine, you are 4x less likely to test positive for COVID, as well as 15x less likely to die from the virus. As of early 2022, 61% of Kansans, and 56% of Missourians have been vaccinated for COVID-19. This vaccine has saved over 1 million lives and kept over 10 million people out of the hospital.



3. What does the data say?

Immunizations are safe. The safety and effectiveness of vaccines are under constant study. Because vaccines are designed to be given routinely during well-child visits, they need to be safe. Safety testing begins as soon as a new vaccine is considered, continues until it is approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and is monitored indefinitely after licensure. The AAP works closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make recommendations for vaccine use.



4. What do the people say?

Polling data from early 2022 tells us the majority of Kansans are pro-vaccination with 93% agreeing that routine immunizations are important, 95% understanding they are safe, and 96% understanding they are effective.



5. Prevention VS. Treatment

Vaccinations are safe, preventative and accessible tools that save lives. Yes, people can survive the chickenpox. However, preventing the opportunity for the measles, mumps, polio, or COVID-19 from entering your body can also save you time, money, and your health. Not participating in prevention is taking a huge risk, and the costs associated with necessary disease treatment has the potential to be astronomical. The average ER cost in the Midwest in 2020 was \$1,622.00.





HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE PARENT ACTION NETWORK?

1. Join our PAN by emailing Ali Hilton, MAIC Director, at ahilton@nurturekc.org. (Please mark "Join PAN" in the subject line.)

2. Get involved with protecting vaccination:

Be Active on Social Media

Follow Nurture KC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NurtureKC and Twitter profile at www.twitter.com/NurtureKC. Like, share and comment on our frequent posts highlighting MAIC activities and immunization information. Spreading the word is important!

Participate in Outreach

Tell a few like-minded friends about MAIC, the importance of immunization, and start a Parent Action Network (PAN) in your community.

Contribute to our Story Bank

Reach out to us if you have a compelling disease survivor story to include on our MAIC story bank page at www.nurturekc.org/solutions/immunization.

Contact Lawmakers

Send an email or call your local lawmakers as immunization policies are considered. Check out your local legislators at https://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/. We will provide you with talking points when needed.

Give Testimony

Testify in person or submit written testimony as bills are considered.

Join the MAIC Steering Committee

Take your commitment one step further and join the MAIC Steering Committee, or help us identify others that may be interested.

FACT VERSUS FICTION

COVID-19 VACCINES



FICTION

The ingredients in COVID-19 vaccines are dangerous.

FICTION

The natural immunity I get from being sick with COVID-19 is better than the immunity I get from COVID-19 vaccination.

FICTION

The COVID-19 vaccine is experimental, was rushed, and will alter my DNA.

FICTION

A COVID-19 vaccine will make me sick with COVID-19.



FACT

COVID-19 vaccines do NOT contain ingredients like preservatives, tissues (like aborted fetal cells), antibiotics, food proteins, medicines, latex, or metals.

FACT

Getting a COVID-19 vaccination is a safer and more dependable way to build immunity. Those who do not get vaccinated after their recovery are more than 2 times as likely to get COVID-19 again than those who get fully vaccinated after their recovery.

FACT

The vaccine process did not start from scratch. It was created with technology that had previously been developed. The vaccine went through the same steps as other trusted vaccines. Some of the trials were done simultaneously to expedite the process. The vaccine does not change or interact with your DNA. The genetic material delivered by mRNA vaccines never enters the nucleus of your cells, which is where your DNA is kept. The vaccine now has full FDA approval for adults.

FACT

COVID-19 vaccines teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are signs that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. This does not cause an infection of COVID-19.

FACT VERSUS FICTION

ROUTINE IMMUNIZATIONS



FICTION

Vaccines are unsafe because they cause autism.



FACT

Fear that vaccines increase risk of autism originated with a 1997 published study in a medical journal. The paper has since been completely discredited due to serious procedural errors, undisclosed financial conflicts of interest, and ethical violations. The author lost his medical license. However, the claim was taken seriously, and several other major studies were conducted. None of them found a link between any vaccine and the likelihood of developing autism.

FICTION

We don't need to vaccinate because infection rates are already so low in the United States.

FACT

This is due to high vaccination rates. When a large majority of people are immunized in any population, even the unimmunized minority are protected. With so many people resistant, an infectious disease will never get a chance to establish itself and spread. This is important because there will always be a portion of the population – infants, pregnant women, elderly, and those with weakened immune systems – that can't receive vaccines.

FICTION

Natural immunity is better than vaccine-acquired immunity.

FACT

In some cases, natural immunity – meaning actually catching a disease and getting sick – results in a stronger immunity to the disease than a vaccination. However, the dangers of this approach far outweigh the relative benefits. If you wanted to gain immunity to measles, for example, by contracting the disease, you would face a 1 in 500 chance of death from your symptoms. In contrast, the number of people who have had severe allergic reactions from an MMR vaccine, is less than 1 in 1 million.

FICTION

Vaccines contain toxins and are not work the risk.

FACT

Despite parent concerns, children have been successfully vaccinated for decades. In fact, there has never been a single credible study linking vaccines to long term health conditions. The overall incidence rate of severe allergic reaction to vaccines is usually placed around one case for every one or two million injections.