

## **PFIZER'S COVID-19 VACCINE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE FOR 16 AND 17-YEAR-OLDS**

*Renown Health now offering vaccinations for teens at no cost*

**RENO, Nev. (April 5, 2021)** – Renown Health has been working with the Washoe County Health District, the state, and the CDC to distribute the limited supplies of COVID-19 vaccines. Renown has vaccinated over 30,000 people and completed more than 50,000 dose 1 and dose 2 vaccinations to date, which includes all of Tier 1A and eligible community members – which now includes everyone 16+.

“With our recent announcement of opening up eligibility to everyone in our community 16 and older, parents and guardians of minors ages 16 and 17 likely have some questions around the COVID-19 vaccine for this age group,” said Max Coppes, M.D., Ph.D., MBA, Nell J. Redfield Chair of Pediatrics at the University of Nevada School of Medicine and Pediatrician-in-Chief at Renown Children’s Hospital. “We want to ensure parents and guardians that the Pfizer vaccine, the only FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine for teens, is safe and effective. Vaccinating children of all ages will be critical to slowing the pandemic – and will be a tremendous help to our parents, grandparents, schools and teachers.”

“Renown is excited to be able to offer the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine to the 16 and 17 year olds in our community at Renown’s COVID-19 Drive-Thru Vaccine site at no cost. We were able make more than 7,500 vaccine appointments available just for the month of April,” said Tony Slonim, MD, DrPH, President and CEO of Renown Health. “The ability to safely offer vaccinations to this age group gives me increased hope for the future and we are pleased to be a part of this solution for our community.”

### **Vaccine appointments for 16+ begin Tuesday, April 6 at Renown’s Drive-Thru Vaccine site**

#### **To schedule an appointment for a 16 or 17 year old:**

1. We have made special arrangements for minors ages 16 and 17. Please fill out [this form](#), also found on <https://covid.renown.org/vaccine/>.
2. Renown’s Customer Engagement team **will call the listed phone number within 14 business days** to schedule the appointment. We appreciate your patience as demand is high.
3. Please note that a parent or guardian must accompany the teen when getting their vaccination.

“There’s a chance teens will experience side effects similar to those experienced by adults,” said Vanessa Slots, MD, Division Chief of Pediatrics at Renown. “These side effects are generally mild and include pain, fever, chills and fatigue, particularly after the second dose of the vaccine. Even with this possibility, I would recommend every parent or guardian in our community sign up their eligible teen to receive their COVID-19 vaccine.”

### **Vaccine appointments for 18+**

Every person age 18 and older may register for a free Renown [EPIC MyChart](#) account. They do not need to have a Renown provider to enroll. With a MyChart account, you will be able to login and schedule your first vaccine appointment. These vaccines require two doses. After the first dose of the vaccine is documented in your MyChart account, you will get a notice to schedule your second dose.

[Please see b-roll, photos and fly-over footage of our Drive-Thru COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic here.](#)

**If you would like to speak to one of our pediatric experts about this topic, please call our PR team at 775-691-7308 or email [news@renown.org](mailto:news@renown.org).**

You are advised NOT to receive the vaccine if you:

- Are ill at the time of vaccination (fever, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhea or acute illness).
- Have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 14 days.
- Have received any other vaccination in the last 14 days.
- Have a history of significant allergic reaction to this vaccine or any of its ingredients.
- The CDC has additional guidance on those with [underlying conditions](#) and those who are [pregnant](#).

Renown has additional updates on our website at [covid.renown.org](https://covid.renown.org).



**Contact:** Renown Public Relations  
**M:** 775-691-7308 **E:** [news@renown.org](mailto:news@renown.org)

**About Renown Health**

Renown Health is the region's largest, locally governed, not-for-profit integrated healthcare network serving Nevada, Lake Tahoe and northeast California. With a diverse workforce of more than 7,000 employees, Renown has fostered a longstanding culture of excellence, determination and innovation. The organization comprises a trauma center, two acute care hospitals, a children's hospital, a rehabilitation hospital, a medical group and urgent care network, and the region's largest, locally owned not-for-profit insurance company, Hometown Health. Clinical institutes include: Cancer, Heart and Vascular Health, Neurosciences and Robotic Surgery. Renown is currently enrolling participants in the world's largest community-based genetic population health study, the Healthy Nevada Project®. For more information, visit [renown.org](http://renown.org).