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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Physicians and PAs Stress the Importance of COVID-19 Vaccines for Adolescents

RALEIGH – The North Carolina Medical Society (NCMS) and the thousands of physicians and PAs it represents statewide, strongly encourages all adolescents eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine to be vaccinated as soon as possible if they have not already received the shot. Ensuring that our children can return safely to in-person learning this fall is important for the overall health of the children and their families.

“The COVID-19 vaccine has proven safe and effective and is largely responsible for the return to normalcy we’ve been experiencing thus far this summer,” said NCMS President **Philip Brown, Jr., MD**. “It is crucial that anyone 12-years-old and older who has not yet been vaccinated against COVID-19, get vaccinated so they can return to learning and socializing in an environment safe from the virus and beneficial to their intellectual and social development.”

Many medical practices and pharmacies are administering the vaccine, which is free of cost to the patient. The Pfizer vaccine is approved for those aged 12 and up. Families can find the closest location to receive the vaccine at [this website](#). If you have questions or concerns about the vaccine, please reach out to your regular physician or PA or your local health department to get answers. You may also [access more information here](#).

Recent reports have revealed that many children have suffered academically, socially and emotionally due to the necessity of remote learning and the isolation brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Please help ensure the adolescent population is vaccinated against COVID-19 so our children can experience a more typical school and social life this fall.

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About the North Carolina Medical Society

“The North Carolina Medical Society is the oldest professional member organization in North Carolina, representing physicians and physician assistants who practice in the state. Founded in 1849, the Society seeks to provide leadership in medicine by uniting, serving and representing physicians and their health care teams to enhance the health of North Carolinians.”