WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccination has demonstrated safety effectiveness in preventing hospitalization and death for children and adolescents;¹ and

WHEREAS, The risks of cardiac and thromboembolic complications from COVID-19 disease, including MIS-C, is far higher than the risk of myocarditis from vaccination;¹,³ and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines reduce the risk of significant morbidity, including “long COVID” and missed days from school and work;¹ and

WHEREAS, Children can serve as a pool for ongoing community spread of COVID-19 clusters and outbreaks;² and

WHEREAS, Vaccination has been demonstrated to reduce overall community transmission of COVID-19;¹,³ and

WHEREAS, Risk of exposure to COVID-19 poses significant concern for children with chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes and developmental disorders;¹,² therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association encourage states to make COVID-19 vaccination a requirement for school attendance for children and college/university students once the FDA grants full approval for COVID-19 vaccination for all relevant age groups. (New HOD Policy)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 09/27/22

REFERENCES:
RELEVANT AMA POLICY

Education and Public Awareness on Vaccine Safety and Efficacy H-440.830

1. Our AMA (a) encourages the development and dissemination of evidence-based public awareness campaigns aimed at increasing vaccination rates; (b) encourages the development of educational materials that can be distributed to patients and their families clearly articulating the benefits of immunizations and highlighting the exemplary safety record of vaccines; (c) supports the development and evaluation, in collaboration with health care providers, of evidence-based educational resources to assist parents in educating and encouraging other parents who may be reluctant to vaccinate their children; (d) encourages physicians and state and local medical associations to work with public health officials to inform those who object to immunizations about the benefits of vaccinations and the risks to their own health and that of the general public if they refuse to accept them; (e) will promote the safety and efficacy of vaccines while rejecting claims that have no foundation in science; (f) supports state policies allowing minors to override their parent’s refusal for vaccinations; and (g) will continue its ongoing efforts with other immunization advocacy organizations to assist physicians and other health care professionals in effectively communicating to patients, parents, policy makers, and the media that vaccines do not cause autism and that decreasing immunization rates have resulted in a resurgence of vaccine-preventable diseases and deaths.

2. Our AMA: (a) supports the rigorous scientific process of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices as well as its development of recommended immunization schedules for the nation; (b) recognizes the substantial body of scientific evidence that has disproven a link between vaccines and autism; and (c) opposes the creation of a new federal commission on vaccine safety whose task is to study an association between autism and vaccines.

Citation: Res. 9, A-15; Modified: CSAPH Rep. 1, I-15; Appended: Res. 411, A-17; Modified: Res. 011, A-19;