Warren County doctors urge – Get Vaccinated!

For immediate release, May 18, 2021
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When we get sick or have a medical question, we turn to our doctors and nurses. We trust them with our lives, and those of our loved ones, in trying times.

The worst pandemic in a century is one of those trying times.

COVID vaccines are helping us emerge from that pandemic. Nearly 6 months have passed from when the first vaccines were administered in Warren County, and more than 32,800 county residents have been fully vaccinated. Only 14 of those vaccinated residents have been diagnosed with COVID since!

We still need thousands of Warren County residents to do their part, however.

Our doctors were among the first who were offered COVID vaccines, and the overwhelming majority here in Warren County got their shot as soon as they could last December and January.

A number of them came forward in recent days with messages of support for these vaccines, and **requested that their patients get vaccinated as soon as they can.**

"Our medical providers aren't just saying that we should get vaccinated. They did it themselves, and also encouraged their loved ones to get vaccinated," said **Ginelle Jones, Director of Warren County Health Services**. "They understand the science and medicine behind these vaccines, and were eager to get the shot because they knew that it is the best weapon we have to help bring this health emergency under control."

Here is what Warren County's physicians and nurses had to say about COVID vaccination:

- "With the summer months just around the corner and everyone hoping for a return to 'normal' – now is the time to get your COVID-19 vaccine. Consider the fact that well over 80% of your friends and neighbors who work at Glens Falls Hospital have received both of their shots; that should give you confidence that the health care professionals who live and work in your community trust that the vaccines available are safe and effective. And there are some startling statistics with regard to those who contract COVID-19 and survive – COVID-19 survivors have an almost 60% greater chance of death within 6 months compared to the general population. Why take a chance? Get vaccinated today!" -- **Sean Bain M.D., Chief of Hospitalists, Glens Falls Hospital.**

- "I encourage everyone who is not yet vaccinated to take the opportunity to do so. Vaccination is safe, widely available, and a critical step toward keeping ourselves, our families, and our communities safe as we gradually return to our normal lives." – **William Borgos, M.D.**, **Chief Medical Officer, Hudson Headwaters Health Network.**

- "For the last week of April 2021, children accounted for 22% of new COVID-19 cases. A year ago, the number was 3%. It is, has been, and always will be important to immunize children to protect them and others against COVID-19 and other preventable diseases." -- **Matthew Tarello, M.D., Adirondack Pediatrics.**

- "The Pfizer COVID vaccine has been shown to be safe and extremely effective in adolescents 12- to 16 years old. I'm recommending it to all my patients and family members who are able to receive the vaccine. It's the BEST way we can protect our children from the immediate and long-term effects of COVID-19 and allow them to get back to normal activities. I fully intend to have my own children vaccinated as soon as they are able." -- **Lauren Meilhede, M.D., Adirondack Pediatrics.**

- "The COVID vaccine is safe and effective. I can't wait for my child to be eligible for his vaccine. If your child is eligible, don't hesitate, vaccinate!" -- **Melody Kinsley, M.D., Adirondack Pediatrics**.

- "I received my COVID-19 vaccine so that I can protect myself, my family, and my patients. I strongly encourage eligible children to receive Covid-19 Vaccine so that they can resume their normal activities safely." -- **Amine Gebremichael, M.D.**, **Hudson Headwaters Health Network**.

- "We, as pediatricians at Glens Falls Pediatric Consultants and Pediatric Associates of Saratoga, feel the Pfizer COVID vaccine is safe and effective in preventing the spread of Covid-19. We strongly recommend this vaccine to all of our eligible patients. As

pediatricians we support vaccinations 100% in our practice and Pfizer COVID vaccine is no different. It is the best way we can protect our children and edge closer to returning to our regular daily lives." -- **The Physicians at Glens Falls Pediatric Consultants and Pediatric Associates of Saratoga.**

- As a pediatrician, I am very supportive of children above age 12 getting the COVID vaccine. I would encourage parents to get their children vaccinated with this safe and effective vaccine." – **Eugene McTiernan, M.D. Hudson Headwaters Health Network.**

- "Your providers at Irongate Family Practice encourage you to get the Covid 19 vaccine to protect yourselves and others," – **Robert Reeves, M.D**., **Irongate Family Practice.**

- "Protect yourself and others, please get vaccinated." -- **Jamie Miller, RN**, Nurse Leader, Pediatric and Adolescent Health & Hadley Luzerne Student Health, **Hudson Headwaters Health Network.**

- "In addition to being vaccinated myself, I had my family members get vaccinated too so we can all be healthy and safely get back to our normal activities together." -- **Debra Galatioto**, **RN**, **Nursing Education Leader & Infection Control Officer, Hudson Headwaters Health Network.**

For more information on how to get your COVID-19 vaccine in Warren County, go to warrencountyny.gov/covidhub or call 518-761-6580.