

I am deeply concerned about Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s recent removal all 17 members of the CDC's vaccine advisory committee, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), as well as his decision to replace these committee members with individuals aligned with his anti-vaccine views.

I am an educator who has seen the impact of infectious diseases on my students' abilities to attend school and keep up with coursework, as well as a family member of high-risk individuals, and simply a citizen concerned with public health. I believe the following.

1. RFK Jr. must preserve an independent decision process with CDC's ACIP and reverse the decision to remove the recent expert advisors.
2. Members of ACIP must disclose all financial and other conflicts of interest.
3. ACIP must understand that currently available FDA-approved vaccines are safe and effective, and children, adults, and pregnant people all of whom rely on CDC ACIP vaccine recommendations for access to vaccines and insurance coverage.
4. ACIP must continue to recommend widespread and unhindered access to a wide range of vaccines to protect people of all ages in the US.
5. ACIP must preserve a universal recommendation for COVID vaccines for people of all ages, including children and pregnant people, at least twice annually.