

Public Comment for the June 25-27, 2025, CDC ACIP Committee Meeting

To RFK Jr. and Members of the CDC ACIP committee:

I have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

I am writing to you as a concerned American citizen. I am deeply disappointed about the recent termination of all 17 members of the CDC ACIP committee, announced on June 9 by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. These former members played an important role as independent expert scientists or clinicians on the ACIP committee, with a crucial role in providing their understanding of the safety and efficacy of FDA-approved and authorized vaccines, while also guiding insurance coverage and coverage for uninsured children through the Vaccines for Children program. Since current vaccination rates for many infectious diseases are very low, many communities across the US are directly affected by outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases such as measles, pertussis, and COVID. Many of these infections can cause serious and potentially lifelong consequences on their health. NO CHILD IN 2025 should DIE, or become DISABLED, from infectious diseases because of a lack of access to affordable and effective vaccines!!

RFK Jr., Marty Makary, and Vinay Prasad have recently established policies that limit access to COVID vaccinations - and by creating such barriers, they are causing unnecessary harm to the public's health. EVERYONE must have regular access to updated COVID vaccines, with wide availability through full coverage by health insurance. The scientific evidence is irrefutable; it is a waste of precious resources and time to conduct additional efficacy studies, which only serve to sow doubt regarding vaccines. Receiving a COVID vaccine within the last year reduces the risk of symptoms, severe disease, disability, and death for people of all ages, including previously healthy people. The proposed new policies create barriers to access to COVID vaccines, limiting access for children, pregnant people, and adults under age 65. These restrictions also create immense confusion among the public on the usefulness of COVID vaccines. I am demanding that you take action - follow the

evidence, and reinstate universal COVID vaccine recommendations for people of ALL AGES, TWICE A YEAR, for all COVID vaccine formulations. This can prevent death and disability on a widespread basis - it is the CORRECT, HUMANE thing to do!!

Any changes to vaccine-related policies requires a science and evidence-based approach entailing an open, and transparent process. Similarly at the FDA, the VRBPAC committee members were faced with undue influence by the leadership of the FDA including Vinay Prasad. He made a decision for the VRBPAC committee before they had a chance to consider and share vaccine recommendations. This also happened with the Influenza vaccine strain selection, which occurred in a closed-door meeting without recommendations from the FDA VRBPAC committee members, and no opportunity for public consideration or comment. I beseech this committee to ensure that all vaccine policy decisions are considered, evaluated, and concluded using open and transparent processes, all of which are hallmarks of democracy.

I beg you to reinstate the universal COVID vaccine recommendations, to protect the health of all Americans who value the protection these vaccinations provide. Thank you for your consideration.