

Universal Health Organisation (UHO)

People's Health in People's Hands



Date: 25 Mar 2022

To: Health authorities and Covid task forces at all administrative levels

Subject: Are covid-19 vaccines for children necessary?

The mainstream Covid narrative has been pushing Covid-19 vaccines for everyone, including children. We raise several questions in this context.

1. The much awaited “Paediatric Third Wave” did not strike anywhere in the world or in India.
2. Meanwhile schools in various states have started offline classes since Feb/Mar 2022.
3. There has been no increases of cases or cluster outbreaks in spite of physical classes over this period in spite of the majority of the school children being unvaccinated so far.
4. Pooled data from seven European countries during the deadlier first wave did not reveal any appreciable deaths from Covid-19 in children. [Bhopal S, Bagaria J, Bhopal R. Children mortality from COVID-19 compared with all deaths and other relevant causes of death: Epidemiological information for decision-making by parents, teachers, clinicians and policy makers. [Public Health 2020; 185:19-20.](#)].
5. This study compared child deaths from Covid-19 in children and compared it with death from all causes. They found 44 deaths out of 42, 846 confirmed cases of paediatric Covid-19 giving a case fatality rate of 0.1%. If we correct for asymptomatic cases which can range between 20 and 30 for every confirmed case, the infection fatality rate would be much lower. A British study estimated 2 deaths in 1 million children affected [<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-57766717>]
6. On the other hand, deaths from non-covid-19 conditions in the same period was much more – 13,200 deaths among children in the same period. The main causes of child mortality were – accidents 1056; other respiratory infections 308; influenza 107.
7. The authors concluded that even during the height of the pandemic, 99.67% of all deaths in children were from other causes.
8. Besides being at negligible risk from Covid-19, studies found that school children do not spread infections to elders nor trigger community transmissions [Lee B, William VR. COVID-19 transmission and children: The child is not to blame. [Pediatrics. 2020;146:E2020004879.](#)]
9. Do we have Indian data on deaths of children from covid-19 along with their health profiles? Without such data how can we make a risk benefit analysis of a vaccine whose long term adverse effects are unknown?
10. Besides the unknown adverse effects the cost benefit also does not work out in favour of a covid-19 vaccine for children when in our country every day over 2000 children die of other preventable diseases. Where is such a cost-benefit analysis justifying Covid-19 vaccines for children?