

Routine vaccination rates must recover to reduce secondary health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic

November 9 2021



Credit: Pixabay/CC0 Public Domain

Authors of this special report note that, although ending the COVID-19 pandemic is of utmost importance, it is critical to recover from what

they describe as a "severe" disruption to routine vaccination services, which has resulted in "considerable deficits" of vaccination rates across all age groups.

Vaccinations that have seen drops include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DTaP) and polio, as well as HPV vaccination rates for children 9-12. This drop in routine vaccinations may have dire consequences to future population health and a potential to strain an already overtaxed health system.

The authors conclude, "Recovering from the decline in routine [vaccination rates](#) caused by the pandemic will take years. This [recovery](#) requires all stakeholders to drive awareness of the importance of routinely recommended vaccines; facilitate access to vaccination; and build [vaccine](#) confidence."

The research was published in *The Annals of Family Medicine*.

More information: Ava Skolnik et al, Silent Consequences of COVID-19: Why It's Critical to Recover Routine Vaccination Rates Through Equitable Vaccine Policies and Practices, *The Annals of Family Medicine* (2021). [DOI: 10.1370/afm.2730](https://doi.org/10.1370/afm.2730)

Provided by American Academy of Family Physicians

Citation: Routine vaccination rates must recover to reduce secondary health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic (2021, November 9) retrieved 19 November 2023 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-11-routine-vaccination-recover-secondary-health.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.