



Covid-19: the Moderna vaccine now not recommended for children under 30 by the High Authority for Health

The High Authority for Health, based on the new opinion of the European Medicines Agency and on the Epi-Phare report confirming the risk of myocarditis and pericarditis, recommends dispensing with the Moderna vaccine in young people.



The Moderna vaccine could be suspended among young people, as several Nordic countries have already decided. LP / Arnaud Journois

By Nicolas Berrod

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10

Three weeks break, and let's go? Not for everybody. The High Authority for Health (HAS) recommends this Monday the resumption of booster vaccinations with Moderna, but it advises against it, for any injection (first dose, second dose, booster dose, etc.) in children under 30 years old . The American biotech product [was suspended on October 15](#) in France for booster injections, following [the alert issued by several Scandinavian countries](#) concerning [a possible increased risk of myocarditis and pericarditis in the youngest](#)

It is precisely for this reason, supported by a French study published on Monday, that the HAS now completely advises against Moderna among those under 30. The risk of myocarditis and pericarditis appears particularly high after the second dose in young men aged 12 to 29, with one case hospitalized for 7600 injections within seven days of the injection.

Read also [Pfizer and Moderna vaccines: what the French study says that confirms the risk of myocarditis and pericarditis](#)

The HAS believes that only Pfizer, the other messenger RNA vaccine and for which the risk of serious cardiac complications is much lower, should now be administered to young people. The available stocks make it possible a priori to ensure such a change in strategy. The Department of Health has yet to react, but it usually follows these types of recommendations and there is no reason to be otherwise this time around.

3.3 million inhabitants vaccinated with a booster

The French agency, on the other hand, gives the green light to a resumption of booster injections with Moderna in the over 30s. It is based in particular on a favorable opinion from the European Medicines Agency (EMA), [delivered on Monday 25 October](#) . "A third dose administered 6 to 8 months after the second dose resulted in an increase in antibody levels in adults whose antibody levels decreased", had justified the EMA. "The risk of inflammatory heart disease or other very rare side effects after a booster is carefully monitored," she added, adding that she will

continue to review "all the data on the safety and efficacy of the Moderna vaccine. "

Read also Stéphane Bancel, boss of Moderna: "We must vaccinate young children"

Apart from Moderna, Pfizer can also be used for booster doses in people over 30 in France. To date 3.6 million inhabitants have received one. This represents less than one eligible inhabitant - that is to say having received their last injection at least six months earlier - in two. Vaccination coverage deemed insufficient by the government, which is increasing the number of "calls for recall". And who could encourage Emmanuel Macron [to make new announcements during his speech this Tuesday evening](#) .

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