

# **ALLIANCE OF FILIPINOS FOR FREEDOM AND INFORMED CHOICE**

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## ***Resist the Rush! Safer to Wait!* STOP THE COVID VACCINATION ROLLOUT FOR CHILDREN!**

The Philippines' Department of Health has announced the rollout of Covid vaccination for children aged 5-11 years old starting Friday, 4 February 2022. The announcement came even if several European countries are lifting strict mandates and restrictions in the face of Omicron and other emerging Covid variants. Many countries now recognize that Omicron as a Covid strain can be regarded as a manageable case of flu, rendering Covid to be less threatening than what it was originally thought. It is showing that Covid needs not anymore create a widespread atmosphere of fear.

DOH's rollout announcement is appalling as the agency seems to give utter disregard to this recent update from more advanced countries, but also the fact that science, after more than 2 years of Covid, remains seriously conflicted on the root and nature of the Covid illness. More so, science has not yet achieved a more universal approach on Covid treatment, and the experimentations still continue on the efficacy and effects of Covid vaccines, which were once hoped to curb the surge of infections, hospitalizations and death.

This is what makes the DOH plan more appalling because the agency appears to be a raging draconian bull that is blindly pushing for Covid vaccination on children despite the fact that the current vaccinations are experimental and are under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).

Consistent with our mission of advancing children's protection in the face of Covid 19, we, the Alliance of Filipinos for Freedom and Informed Choice, stand that the vaccination of our children against Covid 19 does not meet the established principle of first ensuring that no harm is done. It is a grave act of child rights violation because vaccinating children for Covid-19 exposes them to risks that far outweigh the hoped-for benefit, especially given that children have an extremely low risk from this disease. There is absolutely no justification to hurry the vaccination and put children in harm's way at this time.

We call on the Philippine government, as a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), to uphold the Filipino children's right to life, survival and development. The Philippine state, as a main duty-bearer of accountability for the protection of children's rights, is duty-bound to banner the children's best interest foremost in public health by ensuring that the Covid vaccines are safe, effective and necessary beyond reasonable doubt.

In particular, we reverberate our call to the Department of Health, the Department of Education, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Covid and Infectious Diseases, to reconsider and shelve its plan to do a mass rollout of Covid vaccination on the following grounds:

- The replacement of robust natural immunity of children with a shorter and less competent vaccination immunity is cause for grave concern;
- The effects on the maturation of the immune, reproductive and nervous system of infants/young children/teens need to be carefully and scientifically assessed;
- The rising incidence of adverse events from the current Covid-19 experimental injections, including myocarditis, cannot simply be ignored and merits serious investigation;
- The Covid vaccination programs and policies have so far been divisive, coercive, anti-poor and discriminatory, affecting not only public health but the nation's social fabric of solidarity and respect in the face of pandemic, and thus needing a thorough review before commencing another round of divisive vaccination rollout.

Policy decisions and public health programs especially that affect the health and future of our children must be sound, appropriate and prudent. Our government must take a strong position for our children's lives and future. It must unceasingly promote long-term, more established, more pragmatic and more effective means of enhancing immune intelligence of the human body through healthy lifestyle and well-rounded treatment. It must undertake massive education campaigns that promote a more strategic approach and perspective on public and children's health. And so, we solidify our existing call to never make Covid vaccination, especially on children, mandatory and a requirement for enrollment, for face to face classes, for sports gathering and other development activities, for access to government aids like 4Ps, etc.

Finally, we call on the parents, teachers, and all adults in child-caring roles to be more discerning and courageous in resisting the rush to vaccinate our children against Covid 19. As carers of our children, we are also duty-bound to protect our children at all cost. Let us not forget that the pharmaceutical industry is not legally and medically liable for any adverse vaccination effect, so who's left to stand for our children? Let us not waive and relinquish our accountability over our children's lives. Let us read on and listen to more sound and holistic science! Let us be open to wait for more time and never allow social pressure to get in the way of seeing and ensuring our children's best interest to live a naturally healthy life.

Each young life matters.

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### **CONVENORS:**

Alliance of Dabawenyos for Freedom and Informed Choice  
 Arise People of Revelations - National  
 Palawenos for Health Freedom  
 Lipunan ng mga Antroposopikong Manggagamot and Manghihilom ng Pilipinas (LAMMP)  
 Enlightened Capizenos  
 Friends from National Capital Region  
 Friends from Ormoc, Leyte

Friends from Baguio  
Coalition of Concerned Families of the Philippines  
Metro Davao Pastors Fellowship, Inc. (MDFP)  
Friends from Tacloban  
Arise People of Revelations - Region XI  
In Defense of Our Children  
Bayan Panay  
The Scepter Philippines  
Vaxxed and Unvaxxed for Human Rights  
Friends from Cagayan Valley  
Friends from Municipality of Isabela  
Friends from General Santos City  
Friends from Bukidnon  
Fellowship of Pastors  
News Life Ministries  
Baklasin ang Bakuna (BakBak)

*"We are at a crossroads. The direction we decide to take now will shape the type of society we want to live in and pass on to future generations. That choice will determine whether we bolster our freedoms or relinquish them, promote participation or undermine democracy, empower people or marginalize them."*

- Dunja Mijatovic, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

**LINK to the online petition:** [change.org/quashthemandates](https://change.org/quashthemandates)

