

COVID-19 in Childhood

Amal El Moumen^{1*}

¹Pediatrician at the CNSS Bernoussi Polyclinic, Casablanca, Morocco

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*Corresponding author: Amal El Moumen

Pediatrician at the CNSS Bernoussi Polyclinic, Casablanca, Morocco

Letter to Editor

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Dear Editor,

I'm writing to express my deep concern about the impact of COVID-19 on children. As the pandemic continues to evolve, we must not overlook the tool is taking on your youngest and most vulnerable population.

Children, who were once thought to be less susceptible to severe cases of COVID-19, are now increasingly being affected by the virus. We are seeing more and more reports of children contracting the virus and experiencing serious illness, hospitalizations, and even death. The recent surge in pediatric COVID-19 cases is a stark reminder that this virus is not sparing our children, and we must take action to protect them.

In addition to the physical health risks, the pandemic has also taken a toll on the mental health and well-being of our children. School closures, disruptions in routine, social isolation, and the loss of loved ones have all had a significant impact on the mental health of children. Many children are struggling with anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges as results of the ongoing pandemic.

As a society, we have a responsibility to prioritize the health and well-being of our children. We must take swift and comprehensive action to protect them from COVID-19. This includes promoting and facilitating vaccination for eligible children, implementing and enforcing effective public health measures such as masking, social distancing, and

improved ventilation in schools, and providing mental health support and resources to help children cope with the emotional toll of the pandemic.

Furthermore, we must ensure that children have access to quality education and support services, whether it be in-person or remote, as disruptions to their education can have long-term consequences on their academic and social development.

As we continue to navigate the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we cannot forget about our children. They are our future, and it is our responsibility to prioritize their health and well-being. I urge our community and policymakers to take immediate and proactive steps to protect our children from the impacts of COVID-19.

Sincerely,
Dr. Amal EL MOUMEN

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