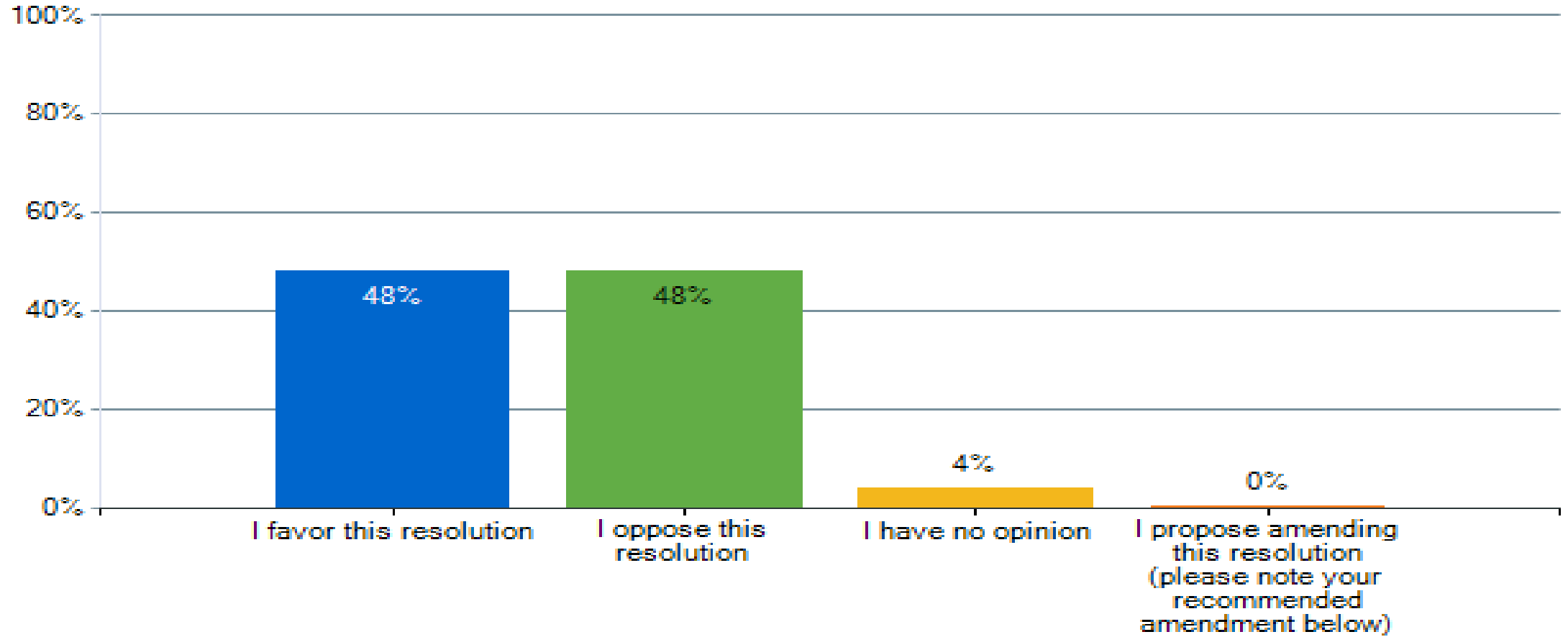
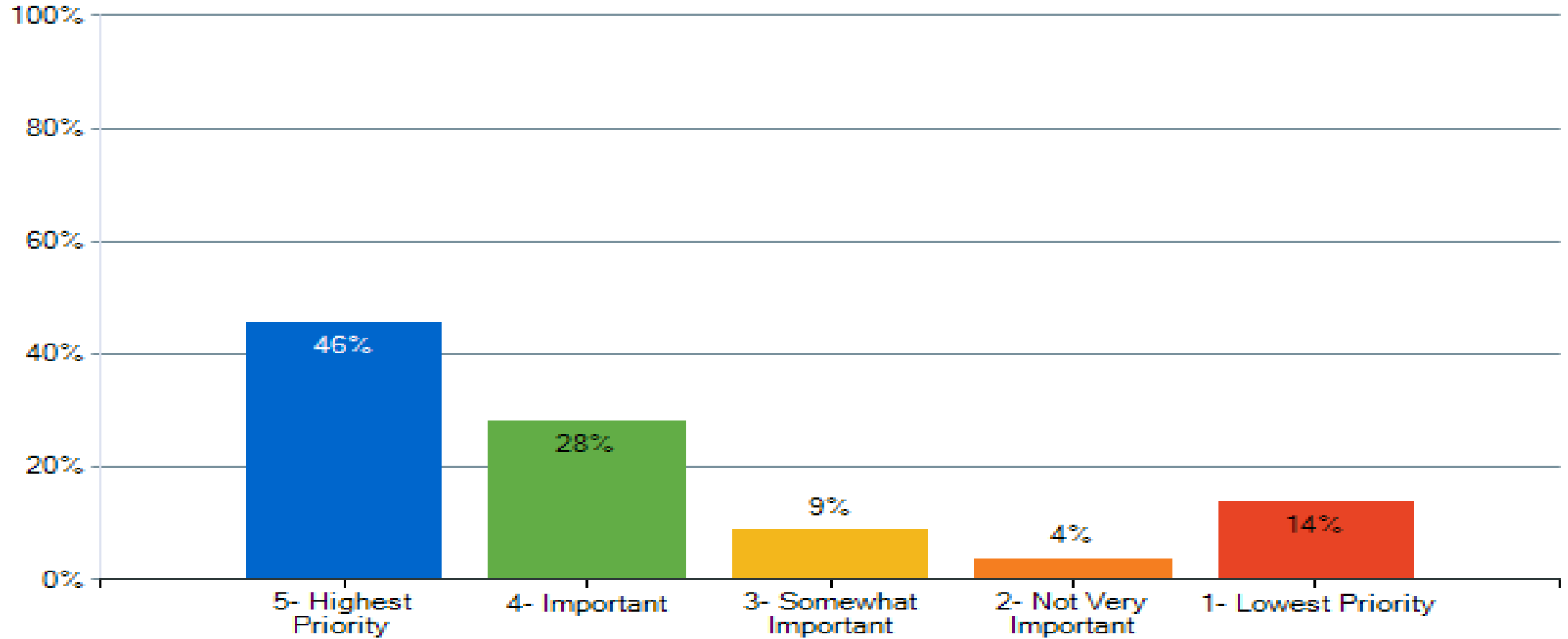


Opposing Child COVID Immunization Requirement for Illinois School Attendance



255 responses

Please indicate your view of this resolution as an ISMS priority.



252 responses

Comments

Response Text

I do believe covid immunization should be required for school.

As a physician society, this would be a grossly irresponsible resolution to pass. The vaccine prevents the COVID pandemic from worsening. Supporting anti vaccination efforts sets a precedent for more anti vaccination campaigns to run rampant, endangering public health. I would not pass this resolution at all - this would set us further back in the COVID pandemic.

Oppose- Believe should follow other vaccine standards

I oppose this resolution ISMS should stand in favor of improving our childrens health

ISMS should not oppose mandatory school vaccine requirements. Withholding recommended immunizations from children is a form of child abuse. Having herd immunity is important to other children and the population at large.

I do NOT oppose covid vaccination requirements to attend school. It is an important public health measure.

Flu shot is not currently mandated. The most vulnerable population for COVID illness is adults who should be the target for immunization programs.

OPPOSED to this resolution

Risk benefit analysis for the COVID vaccine in persons less than 20 years of age, clearly shows no benefit and almost assuredly potential harm. Thus, I disagree with the CDC assertion of placing covid vaccinations on the vaccine schedule for children.

I agree wholeheartedly that we oppose the requirement of mandating the COVID vaccine. Reason: 1. No animal studies done prior to being given to humans. 2. No long term safety data. 3. The vaccine did not prevent catching or spreading the disease. 4. No data on all cause mortality from using this vaccine. 5. The total mortality in the USA over 2 years was 450 children all of which were immunocompromised.

At a time when we are experiencing a trigeminal, this is the time to be protecting children teachers and staff. I strongly agree with this mandate. Unvaccinated children increase the risk of transmitting the Covid virus to immunocompromised or chronically ill children vaccinated but still at risk.

Strongly oppose the proposed policy. Children should be required to be vaccinated for Covid.

Opposed Vaccine for all

This is not good policy

All children must receive COVID immunization in order to attend schools in Illinois to ensure the safety of other children, adults, and the community.

Very Important. As a physician the COVID vaccination for children is too new to mandate and codify. The CDC needs to be seen as an agency to make suggestions not laws.

Why?

In my opinion any physician supporting this resolution should be kicked out of the ISMS. Even discussing this is not the best way to attract new members.

I wholly support this resolution

I agree. Risk benefit analysis does not favor vaccinations for this age group en masse.

I absolutely support this resolution. I think the CDC has overstepped its bounds by mandating this vaccine for our children. The cost benefit analysis for vaccination in this age group is clear. The overwhelming majority of children have very mild effects from a

naturally occurring infection with COVID and the vaccine does not prevent transmission. So why are we mandating this vaccine in this age group? It's insane. The vaccine has clear risks that are greater than the risk of infection and natural immunity. Influenza has much greater risk than COVID in this age group and we have never mandated vaccines for the flu. Thank you for being reasonable in this debate. As a physician, father and grandfather, I have been astounded by the insanity that has been pushed on our communities in the name of "public health."

This is foolish. Why would we oppose appropriate public health efforts. Strongly oppose this resolution

We absolutely should be supporting requirement for vaccines to attend school in Illinois, specifically including the COVID19 vaccine. At bare minimum, we should not be opposing this requirement. If ISMS members cannot agree to support this requirement, I would rather ISMS take no official position at all.

The whole COVID thing has become political. The anti Vaxers will soon cause resurgence's in polio measles mumps etc. we need to choose our battles wisely. If flu vaccines aren't mandated then neither should be COVID. People are afraid

This is a very sensitive and controversial topic. In general, ISMS should support CDC opinion and not oppose it. CDC knows more about Covid than any one of us will ever know. If State of Illinois imposes Covid vaccination requirements at schools in accordance with CDC guidelines, ISMS should support it. If not, let's not oppose it and stay neutral. There is no reason doctors should be against Covid vaccine or for that matter any approved vaccine.

Yes

Vaccine mandates for many less common diseases with similar risk profiles and benefits exist and are supported by public health literature. There is no logical framework by which this should be opposed when other safe and effective vaccines have been mandated for generations. This is politically motivated opposition to vaccination and we should not stoop to it.

What is wrong with you people? This is a public health issue, & of course we should require covid immunization!!

PLEASE !!!! I believe there is evidence that the benefits do NOT outweigh the risks. This vaccine should be optional.

I feel that the view of the CDC is correct

Immunizations in children and adults should follow CDC guidelines in order to protect the general public and to reduce the incidence of communicable diseases which are substantially preventable which lowers morbidity and mortality and lowers costs associated with the communicable diseases.

We advocate for immunizations for many childhood infectious diseases both for the purposes of protecting the individual child and for the health of the other members of society. It would be contrary to established public health norms to exclude this one vaccine which has helped mitigate the effects of a coronavirus which has killed millions worldwide.

Vaccines should be highly recommended for students. Opposing a mandate from a medical society seems like going against itself considering the CDC recommends it further dividing the medical community. We should be more focused on educating why it's important and minimizing the risks that everyone seems very worried about but either are not real risks or very low likelihood to occur

The ISMS as well as most other medical associations has supported childhood immunization before attending school for many years with a resultant reduction in childhood mortality. COVID Immunization is a logical continuation of this policy and

should be supported, not opposed. As with the yearly flu shots, there will be a need to fit the immunization to the circulating variant of the year, but that is achievable. Some children may have conditions specifically precluding immunization. However, having the other children immunized will protect them from COVID.

The person writing this resolution is either homeopath or naturopath. He or she has no understanding that if there is no mandatory immunization there will be a steep decline in the immunization rates and resurgence of all the illnesses we have been able to control and eliminate like small pox. General George Washington mandated revolutionary army to get the crude small pox vaccine. More red coats died of small pox than bullets and we won the war. So, if the ulterior motive is to let China win the war by committing "Harakiri" and have Covid decimate the population in that case the resolution make sense. However looking at the grand success of the immunization so far that approach will be self destructive. Let us take the seat belt law, the public place smoking law out too.

Agree with the resolution. The first priority should be getting children back in school.

Studies from israel showed limited benefits of booster in school aged children.

Oppose this resolution strongly. ISMS should not take any positions that directly go against public health recommendations and /or the opinion of the CDC.

Given that COVID does not seriously affect children but is a serious illness in the elderly and those with DM and other chronic conditions, I do not see why this would be a requirement for children. Allow this to be a conversation between parent/child and physician depending on the child's health.

Wait ??? We DON'T want kids to get vaccinated !?

Children are at low risk for the most part. The Covid vaccine is not without side effects, long term effects are not known as safety studies not completed. It should not be mandatory to immunize against Covid . The parent should be able to decide based on their child s benefit/ risk ratio. For these reasons I oppose mandatory vaccination against Covid 19 .

Vaccines and CDC recommendations are founded in evidence-based medicine. The ISMS should follow these guiding principles and not oppose vaccines based in evidence. We are a medical organization, making medical recommendations. There was no evidence cited in this article or likely any other on PubMed as to these CDC recommendations not being based in evidence. We should support children getting these vaccines in whatever way is best, and I would defer to the potential I-23 AMA CMS report evaluating optimal mechanisms to increase vaccinations rates generally. I oppose this resolution and would recommend not adopt.

I strongly oppose the proposed policy. If the benefit of a vaccine outweighs the risks, we should not oppose it. There have been antivaccination groups who have been the indirect cause of measles, polio, influenza and other infections sporadically and cause great risk to immunosuppressed or non vaccinated people.

As physicians, we should be basing our healthcare and policy decisions on evidenced-based research. This resolution is in direct opposition to numerous studies and national recommendations, including from the AAP. I strongly oppose this.

Many public health political and scientific uncertainties, COVID vaccine mandate for school attendance should be opposed.

cdc advisory committee has not made its case, nor has it proven that the benefit outweighs the risk. CDC is making too many recommendations with scanty evidence and not acknowledging the risks involved with this recommendation.

There is no reason to immunize school children. I have not seen any credible evidence that covid immunization will prevent anyone from getting covid or prevent transmission of covid. No one at the CDC wants to talk about the side effects of covid vaccine!

It is still EUA and hasn't really been shown to be very effective. For the older children where it is not longer under EUA, there is the serious complication of myocarditis, even though our country chooses to minimize this reality. Since the Omicron variant doesn't seem to be causing this myocarditis, evidenced but the current recommendations not to monitor for it with active COVID disease, the risks from the vaccine may actually be greater than disease. Contrary to past published studies, this question has not been studied with Omicron. Sweden and Denmark no longer allow this vaccine for people under 50 due to this issue; that should give us all some pause.

Support this due to no long term safety and follow-up for mRNA vaccines in children and no legal protection for patients (or their legal guardians or parents) who refuse consent to receive mandated vaccines by the State

Opposing the requirement for COVID vaccination for children to attend school is absurd and unprofessional. COVID -19 is a highly contagious infection significant infection for children which can lead to severe illness, and absenteeism from school, the latter of which puts a burden on working parents or caregivers. Of equal to greater importance, children can be a source of infection in other individuals that live with or socialize with contagious children. Given the rapid mutagenicity of the virus, vaccination has been the most effective strategy in avoiding severe or prolonged disease.

The lethal outcome of Covid at it's initial presentation required a massive override of many safety protocols and studies of side effects usually required in order to save lives. This is no longer the case. I am concerned with the reports of side effects of the vaccine to children. Children have been reported to be at low risk of severe outcome of covid infection, and also at low risk of transmission to adults. We should wait until enough data has been produced on adverse outcomes and side effects of vaccinating children before mandating that vaccine to those who are at such low risk.

We are physicians. We should be loudly championing evidence based medicine, which includes vaccines. The text of this resolution provides no argument whatsoever as to why we should oppose the vaccine requirements. Strongly oppose.

Worthy of discussion. Maybe there is a rationale out there to return us to the 11th century.

Kids should be immunized against COVID. Not only is this a structural need for protecting vulnerable children, it sends the wrong message to the public that vaccines are to be questioned. Imagine if the same policy was proposed in the age of polio. It's just really, really wrong, and I'm saddened that it's even a product of our august society.

I have always been an advocate for appropriate vaccinations but feel we should have more long term history with COVID disease/vaccine before making these kinds of decisions. The influenza vaccine is not required for attendance in school despite history of epidemic/pandemic years.

I oppose this vaccine for children. It causes more harm than good.

This is an evolving field and as more information becomes available ISMS should have the ability to change positions on such a topic, based on science and evidenced based medicine, rather than be obligated to maintain a certain position

Just no. The AMA has taken a stance of supporting vaccination in all forms, and even is opposed to allowing for religious exemptions for vaccines. There is no reason for us to be opposed to this or any vaccine, and doing so would seriously hurt our organization's credibility with physician's and with the public health worlds that we work in. Requiring vaccines for schools is an effective tool for encouraging compliance with vaccines, and increasing herd immunity, and we should continue to stand by them. This resolution is anti-science, antithetical to public health, and has no place in our policy compendium.

Disagree with this resolution. COVID vaccines are safe and requiring them in school means more kids will get vaccinated which is the best thing for the public's health.

There is no potential benefit to the children or society to use "mRNA Vaccines" for children. Informed consent when given to parents should include that only potential harm and complications may arise from children being given these substances, but that there is no benefit to be had.

Oppose. Feel it should be mandatory.

I agree with this proposal.

I support the resolution to oppose the COVID immunization requirement

The promoted benefit to children is far below the documented risk of harm, short and long term. The vaccines don't stop infection or transmission, so they don't benefit others. Even if they did, putting children at risk to protect those who have exceeded the average life expectancy is not a mark of an enlightened and immoral society.

I absolutely oppose COVID vaccine mandates for children to attend school in Illinois. The data/research is not there to support it (i.e. risk/benefit), longitudinal safety data is lacking. I am a physician with three boys, 12, 14,15 and will not vaccinate them against covid.... especially since they have had it. The burden of proof of strong benefit is on those who propose to mandate, and I have not seen this proof, in fact, nothing close to good data to suggest that this is good policy.

Totally agree.

Not sure why ISMS' email with this survey information led with seeking opinion on "Opposing Child COVID-19 Immunization Mandates..." - sounds like terms of propaganda, since there are NO school immunization MANDATES in Illinois; there are school immunization REQUIREMENTS with medical and religious EXEMPTIONS. This resolution also appears to NOT include any rationale for opposing integration of COVID-19 vaccination (up to date status) into the school immunization requirements schedule. Why is the author recommending ISMS oppose CDC and ACIP's evidence-based recommendation to add COVID-19 vaccination to the school immunization schedule (which includes vaccination against measles, hepatitis B, and pertussis)? This resolution doesn't appear to be aligned with goals of medicine to promote healthy outcomes and prevent disease. I strongly oppose this resolution, which if adopted, would set a dangerous precedent for ISMS, compromising ISMS' mission and credibility. Thank you.

I strongly believe that if this resolution moves forward, it should clearly and forcefully add that ISMIE stands firmly behind the mandatory immunization requirements that Illinois school children must abide by presently. Furthermore, it should clearly state that childhood vaccinations have proven to be safe and effective in eradicating and/or mitigating severe childhood diseases that once caused significant morbidity and death.

Would be nice if a resolution about health had at least a little medical/health rationale included. I would strongly oppose this as the literature and public health evidence would seem to contradict it.

Would defer to AAP or others. These resolution is divisive to membership as many physician believe the science that that vaccines are good public health policy. ISMS membership is shrinking and divisive resolutions like this should be avoided as it turn off some members to the point of leaving the association.

This is insane. If public health concerns warrant immunization to protect the population, the government should not be impeded. This is an ill-conceived resolution and no responsible medical society should rely on policy over science to address a pandemic .

The ISMS should be doing everything it can to expand the use of safe and effective vaccines, not wasting its time opposing them, so I will not offer any support for the resolution. Are you considering opposition to other vaccines? MMR, varicella, pertussis

perhaps? If we cannot remain neutral on this issue I would scrap Res. 11.2022-24(A-23) and rather bringing forth a resolution in support of this requirement.

Scandinavian experience seems to support

We currently require vaccines that harm way less children than COVID. When was your last case of polio or tetanus etc. yet I see covid patients daily and some have lost their parents and many their grandparents. Although we children are at a low risk for dying, they infect family member who do. In addition, the rate of long term covid infection is unknown but the rate of type 1 diabetes is at an all time high - ? We need to do what is best for our public health - not just what the individual wants.

The data is clear on this! I am strongly in favor of this Resolution.

I think all children should be vaccinated.

In the absence of data proving safety, we must oppose such mandates.

Although I agree with the sentiment, I don't think public health issues such as these should be a priority of the ISMS

Gosh, so many people dead in the world, including children and adolescents due to Covid with its numerous mutations. Many teachers and extended family members of those students/teachers died also. Unvaccinated children/adolescents may survive Covid on average better than older age groups, but they may still infect others. (And some variants may target younger age groups, especially if unvaccinated totally.) Those who survive a natural Covid infection, especially several of them, may have longer term cognitive, mood, cardiac, neurological, and vascular health challenges that are already of concern and not fully understood yet. How will you support front line teachers who are at risk if you do not support public health measures to enhance their safety by supporting vaccinations of children for the good of them and all? There is already teacher burnout and an exodus from teaching. We need to become a country that will support strongly our public health directives, not be disrespectful of such service to our common good. Our public health professionals are already getting death threats whenever the public doesn't like the news. I would recommend that ISMS leave this alone. Let public health professionals and the CDC/government work out guidelines/mandates regarding vaccinations, as well as any medical exceptions to the rules. It would otherwise undermine the authority of our public health system to address health issues effectively. ISMS should be on the side of science, and vaccinations are part of that science. Otherwise, ISMS will look like it supports an anti-vaxxer movement, which will risk its value to at least a certain part of your membership.

Should not mandate a vaccination only approved for emergency use authorization. More years of study required for these, especially in kids.

I can't imagine a world where I would oppose primary illness prevention or mitigation of illness experience. Vaccine use is a demonstrated positive, regardless of what conspiracy theorists might want us to believe.

Makes sense to me. As COVID is revealed as a rapidly mutating virus where vaccine development can hardly keep up, why add COVID to list of required school immunizations ? Do we require annual flu shots for school attendance ?

Why politicize the health and safety of our children? The vaccine is safe and effective. Why would we not support protecting our most vulnerable population?

Strongly oppose

I see no reason not to include COVID-Vaccines with other vaccines including influenza for this age group.

There should be no COVID vaccine requirement for children and young people. They are a low risk group and the threat of myocarditis is very real.

Agree with this policy position. -This is a very unusual and quickly developed vaccine with new technology that is proving to have limited effectiveness and also appears to have real medical problems we do not know a lot about from a medical and scientific stand point. -The short term and long term risks, benefit ratio is very highly questionable at this point compared to other mandatory and other vaccines traditionally available in the US and effects on developing children, adolescents as well as young adults from a cardiovascular, reproductive and hematological factor show concerns we have a professional medical duty to consider and be watchful of. -In addition, there is now another traditionally developed and tested vaccine technology available for Corona-viruses from the University of Texas System. This was conventionally developed with 12 years of safety and efficacy data available. Believe this was released to the public domain for license and manufacture. -We should be looking at options like this and medical treatments with potentially better safety'efficacy data as a viable options.....

ISMS should not have any resolution that questions or opposes a CDC recommendation unless it has a very strong scientific basis to deviate from it ISMS should not waste time and energy by getting involved in controversial healthcare issues unless there is a pressing public health goal.

COVID19 continues to change, and is not the severity of illness that it was in 2020. The mRNA vaccines went through the Emergency Use Authorization process in order to be available quickly during the pandemic, not the ordinary approval process. We don't have much if any information about the long term risk to school age children from the mRNA vaccines. It's reasonable to continue encouraging older adults and at risk adults to receive the mRNA vaccines or begin a series of Novavax. School age kids do not seem to be much risk to protected elders and the kids themselves are at low risk of serious COVID19 illness. Kids are probably the best able age group to make use of natural immunity. Kids should not be on the receiving end of mRNA vaccine mandates for school.

I absolutely agree with this resolution!!! Vaccinations for Covid in children is total insanity!

I oppose this resolution. Covid shots, life flu shots have been shown to work and prevent serious illness from this disease. Long covid is real and serious. Let's follow the science and not the politics on this one.

We endorse other life saving vaccines but not Covid!?????????? What a hypocritical resolution!

The science supports the broad and systemic use of COVID-19 vaccinations as an effective tool to fight mortality from infection. The benefits outweigh the risks.

I oppose requiring child COVID vaccinations at this time given paucity of long term data of effects/safety of vaccine.

ridiculous that this mandate remains on the books given the current state of the pandemic and what we now know about the vaccine and children