The COVID-19 pandemic has forever put its mark on the year 2020 due to its worldwide effects on human quality of life and global economics. However, 2021 ended with a glimmer of hope when the FDA approved the use of COVID-19 vaccination among for ages 16 and up. Overall, the global vaccine campaign was a success, where countries with high rates of vaccination are showing rapid decline in new infections despite lockdown restrictions being lifted. Even so, limitations are still needed regarding unvaccinated populations, mainly teenagers and children, participating in activities both inside and outside of schools. Luckily, recent epidemiological data have shown that the susceptibility and transmission of COVID-19 by children decreases with younger age. Additionally, children tend to develop asymptomatic disease, thus presenting a more favorable outcome compared to adults. However, the recent emergence of new variants have increased the risk of both the transmission and severity of the disease for children [1], [2], [3].

On May 2021, both the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CMPH) approved the use of the COVID-19 vaccine for teenagers aged 12 years and up, while other countries are considering extending the vaccine to ages 12 to 16 years. They expect that this step will contribute to controlling the pandemic, which is extremely important considering the current spread of new COVID-19 variants. Increasing the vaccination rate will help reach herd immunity and subsequently help the recovery of the global economy. Although, in order to implement such a strategy it is important to understand the vaccine hesitancy of these adolescent’s parents, since parents are usually the decision makers.

In Israel, the vaccination campaign started in mid-December 2020, resulting in a 59.35% vaccination rate by June 3th, 2021. The highest level of new infections per day, using a 7-day moving average, was recorded on January 17th, 2021 at 8,624 infections. This number gradually declined as the percentage of the population that is vaccinated increased, dwindling to only 15 new cases per day at the beginning of June. The Delta variant created another surge at the beginning of July, which quickly increased the number of new weekly cases to 450. A nationwide observational study of Israel showed that vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection, COVID-19-related hospitalization, and COVID-19-related deaths exceeded 96% across all age groups. The following shows the positive correlation between vaccination rate and age: for 70 years and above the rate exceeds 95%, for 50-70 years it is around 90%, and for 20-40 years it is around 80%. The percentage of the Israel population that is vaccinated reached a plateau over the previous two months, with an increase of only 2.3% from a rate of 60.7% on April 1, 2021, to 63% on June 1, 2021 [4], [5], [6].This phenomenon exists in other countries, as well, and is probably caused by vaccine hesitancy. Vaccine hesitancy is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccination despite the availability of vaccination services [7]. The causes of vaccine hesitancy vary by country and are vaccine specific, indicating a need to strengthen the capacity of national programs to identify local casual factors and develop appropriate strategies [8], [9].