



## The News ©

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*by Nia Cason*

The vaccination campaign is accelerating. Olivier Véran confirmed today the opening of vaccination for 5-11 year olds. They will be able to receive a dose of the anti-covid vaccine, with the authorization of one of their parents. However the Minister of Health rejects, for the moment, the idea of a booster dose for adolescents.

Figures continue to rise as the holidays approach, with 73,000 new cases recorded on Monday. According to the Minister of Health Olivier Véran, the Omicron variant today represents 20% of cases in France and could become the majority between Christmas and New Year.

The Omicron variant still worries the whole world. In Israel, people are already preparing for the fourth dose. This will initially be reserved for the over 60s and medical personnel. In the United States, Joe Biden spoke last night. He announced the free distribution of 500 million tests next month, additional reinforcements in hospitals, and the opening of new vaccination and screening centers.

Prostate cancer linked to exposure to chlordecone is now recognized as an occupational disease. A decree to this effect was published today. Chlordecone is a pesticide authorized between 1972 and 1993 in banana plantations in the West Indies. Its toxicity has been known since the 1960s. Today it is estimated that more than 90% of the population has been contaminated by this pesticide.

A detainee at the Osny remand center in the Val d'Oise is currently wanted. He managed to escape yesterday taking advantage of a medical extraction. Once in the hospital parking lot, a woman opened fire on an officer before escaping with the detainee. The prison officer was injured but, thanks to his bulletproof vest, has not suffered severe injuries.