



IMMUNIZATION POLICY

The medical providers at Pediatric Health & Wellness firmly believe that vaccinations are safe, effective, and save lives. **As of January 1, 2016 we will no longer accept new patients who do not plan to immunize their children.** Existing patients who are not adequately vaccinated are advised to schedule an appointment with a provider to formulate a plan to immunize their children.

Existing patients who are not willing to vaccinate are asked to seek health care with another practice.

We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.

We firmly believe in the safety of our vaccines.

We firmly believe, based on all available literature, evidence and current studies, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

We firmly believe that vaccinating children and young adults may be the single most important health-promoting intervention we perform as health care providers, and that you can perform as parents/caregivers. The recommended vaccines and their schedule given are the results of years of scientific study and data gathering on millions of children by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians.

Recently we have been experiencing the consequences of parents not immunizing their children. We are beginning to see outbreaks of measles and whooping cough, potentially deadly illnesses that were once nearly eradicated in the United States.

Parents who choose to not immunize or to under-immunize their children not only put their own children at risk, but they also jeopardize the health of our most vulnerable patients. We have patients who are unable to be immunized due to their young age or chronic medical conditions. These children rely on "herd immunity", the protection that is derived from their close contacts receiving their immunizations. When parents choose not to vaccinate their children, they are also putting our most susceptible children at risk.

As medical professionals, we feel very strongly that vaccinating children on schedule with currently available vaccines is absolutely the right thing to do for all children and young adults. Thank you for your time in reading this policy, and please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about vaccines with any one of our providers.