



CHILDREN'S MEDICAL GROUP, P.A. VACCINE POLICY STATEMENT

Vaccine Policy Statement

- We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.
- We firmly believe in the safety of pediatric vaccines.
- We firmly believe that all children and young adults should receive the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- 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 is 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 the vaccination schedule are the results of years and years of scientific study by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians.
- The vaccine campaign is truly a victim of its own success. It is precisely because vaccines are so effective at preventing illness that some people are even discussing whether or not they should be given. Because of vaccines, many parents have never seen a child with polio, tetanus, whooping cough, bacterial meningitis or even chickenpox, or known a friend or family member whose child died of one of these diseases. Such success can make some people complacent or even lazy about vaccinating. But such an attitude, if it becomes widespread, can only lead to tragic results.
- We recognize that there has always been and will likely always be controversy surrounding vaccination. We will do everything we can to convince you that vaccinating according to the schedule is the right thing to do. Should you have doubts, please discuss these with your child's physician.
- Please be advised that delaying or "breaking up the vaccines" to give one or two at a time over two or more visits goes against expert recommendations, and can put your child at risk for serious illness and goes against our medical advice as providers at Children's Medical Group.
- Finally, if you should refuse to vaccinate your child according to the AAP's schedule, we will ask you to find another health care provider who shares your views. We do not keep a list of such providers nor would we recommend any such physician. Please recognize that by not vaccinating you are putting your child at unnecessary risk for life-threatening illness and disability, and even death.