



## Immunization Policy

At Children 1<sup>st</sup> Pediatrics our pediatrician and staff dedicate their efforts to the health, safety and well-being of infants, children, adolescents and young adults. One very important step in ensuring the health of any child is to make sure he or she receives immunizations at the correct time. Our practice follows the outlined schedule by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Vaccines prevent serious disease and have helped to lower the rates of these diseases in the U.S. By getting vaccinated, individual children receive protection from these diseases. Vaccines also help to protect communities by slowing or stopping disease because they are too young, too sick, or do not respond to vaccines.

We **firmly believe** in the safety of vaccines.

We **firmly believe** in the power of vaccines to prevent serious illness.

We **firmly believe**, based on all available scientific inquiries, that vaccines do not cause autism.

We **firmly believe** that all children should be vaccinated according to CDC/AAP schedule.

We **firmly believe** that vaccines are in the best interest of your child, family and the community.

During each visit that a vaccine is recommended, we will provide you with a Vaccine Information Statement which discusses the vaccine, its benefits and any possible side effects. We have the expectation that by entering Children 1<sup>st</sup> Pediatrics your children will be afforded the opportunity to follow these guidelines and stay up to date on recommended immunizations. Vaccinating according to the correct schedule is the right thing to do. However, should you want to customize the schedule in a reasonable way that does not allow undue delay, please discuss this with me before your visit. Please be advised, however, that delaying vaccines goes against expert recommendations, and could put your child at risk. You are welcome to start vaccinating your child at this point. If you do not vaccinate according to recommended schedule, however, you will need to find a new health care provider for your child.

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 me.

For more detailed information please visit:

AAP directed website: [www.healthychildren.org](http://www.healthychildren.org)