

Our Philosophy

We, the physicians of Chapel Hill Children and Adolescents' Clinic, believe that:

1. Vaccines save lives and prevent serious illness.
2. Vaccines are safe.
3. All children should receive the recommended vaccines according to the guidelines sent forth by the American Association of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).
4. Choosing an alternative schedule is a reckless gamble that leaves our children and community less protected.

Because of these beliefs, **we are a vaccinating practice**. Patients who receive care through our clinic must adhere to the guidelines detailed below.

I agree to the vaccination policy: _____

Signature

Name of person signing form: _____

Policy Specifics:

Babies: The primary childhood series of 3 DTaP, 3 HIB, 3 Polio, and 3 Prevnar vaccines must be begun by 4 months of age and completed by 9 months of age.

Toddlers: Boosters of DTaP, HIB, and Prevnar must be received by 18 months. Initial doses of MMR and Varicella must be given by 18 months.

Young Children: The series of MMR, Varicella, Polio, and Whooping Cough vaccines must be completed by age 5.

Young adults: One dose each of Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines must be received by age 13. A second dose of Meningococcal vaccine must be received by age 18.

Patients with documented special medical considerations who require adjustments to the routine schedule will be accommodated on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of our physicians.

Alternative schedules that stay within the above guidelines may be accommodated, but families must know that they are leaving their children less protected and that, despite our best efforts, administration errors are more likely to occur when an alternative schedule is adopted.

Families refusing or delaying vaccines will be asked to sign a Refusal to Vaccinate statement each time a vaccine is refused.

Families who do not adhere to the above guidelines will be notified of their non-adherence prior to dismissal.

Patients who are not yet fully vaccinated when they join our practice, or patients who desire re-admittance to our practice, will need to:

1. Have a consultation appt to discuss and develop a written plan for vaccine completion within 1 month of enrolling
2. Receive their first catch-up vaccines within 2 months of enrollment
3. Finish their catch-up series by 12 months after enrollment

We are happy to discuss vaccines at any visit. We also recommend the following resources for further information.

www.vaccine.chop.edu

www.immunize.org

www.voicesforvaccines.org