

STAMFORD HEALTH MEDICAL GROUP: PEDIATRICS

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 our vaccines.

WE FIRMLY BELIEVE that all children and young adults should receive all the recommended vaccines according to the *schedule published by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)*.

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 intervention we perform as health care providers, and that you can support as parents/caregivers.

As pediatricians, we stand by science and strongly believe in immunization. Immunizations are one of the most effective ways parents can protect their children against serious infectious diseases. Because infants and young children are especially vulnerable, the benefits of immunization far outweigh the small risks associated with each vaccine.

Before the widespread use of vaccines, infectious diseases were a major cause of death among children. In the 1900s, almost 20% of children in the United States died before their fifth birthday. Infectious diseases like pneumonia, diphtheria, dysentery, and measles were rampant, posing a significant threat to young lives.

Our practices will follow the AAP immunization schedule, which provides recommendations that are based in science and best for U.S. children. The AAP schedule was endorsed by 12 health professional societies and differs from the current U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention immunization schedule.

As physicians, we feel strongly that vaccinating children on schedule, with currently available vaccines, is absolutely the right thing to do for all children and young adults. A copy of our current recommended schedule of vaccines and visits is available at the office.

We believe that the decision to delay or not vaccinate your child is dangerous, and our offices will not delay or split vaccines.

Patients are required to comply with the AAP's vaccination schedule as part of our Stamford Health Medical Group, Pediatrics, Vaccine Policy. Families who do not wish to follow the recommended vaccination schedule will need to transfer care to another pediatric provider whose policies align with their beliefs.