



Pediatric Associates of Lafayette, LLC

July 1, 2024

At Pediatric Associates we have dedicated our lives to improving the wellbeing of our patients. Based on nearly 100 years of combined clinical experience, we have witnessed the devastating effects of vaccine preventable diseases in our patients.

Vaccine hesitancy has reached an all-time high in our country and we understand why. In this current climate it is difficult for parents to know the healthiest decision for their children. The school required vaccines are highly effective at preventing diseases. For example, most people have never seen a case of measles or polio. And because we don't see these diseases anymore it is easy to lose sight that the diseases themselves are more devastating for children than potential side effects of the vaccines.

Unfortunately, reemergence of these preventable diseases is occurring because of declining vaccine rates. In the past year, we have had the first case of polio in our country in decades. Also, the cases of measles diagnosed in the first quarter of 2024 is the highest in decades in the US. The hospitalization rate for a child with measles is 1 in 5. The reemergence of these vaccine preventable diseases is putting all of our children at increased risk like never before.

In an effort to keep our patients safe, our practice has implemented a new vaccine policy. All new patients must receive their school age vaccines at the CDC recommended times in order to continue to receive care at Pediatric Associates of Lafayette. For established patients in our practice whose parents have refused vaccines in the past, these patients may continue to receive care at our practice if their parents desire to do so. However, newborn siblings of these existing patients will be required to adhere to this new policy.

We appreciate you trusting us with the care of your children.

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