

DELAWARE VALLEY PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES, P.A.



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VACCINE POLICY

Vaccinating children and young adults may be the single most important intervention we perform as healthcare providers, and that you can perform as a parent or caregiver. We have developed the following statement to explain our views on vaccines and to briefly outline our vaccination policy for patients:

We firmly believe that vaccines are safe, are effective, prevent serious illness, and save lives.

We firmly believe all children and young adults should receive all of the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

That being said, we recognize there will always be controversy surrounding vaccination. And we recognize vaccination to be an emotional choice for some parents.

However, based on all available literature and studies, there is no evidence that vaccines, or the vaccine preservative thimerosal, cause autism or other developmental disabilities. Yet, we have decades of evidence to show that vaccines have spared millions of children from the devastation of diseases such as polio, tetanus, whooping cough, and measles.

We believe that by not vaccinating your child, you are unnecessarily putting him or her at risk for serious illness and the possibility of disability or even death. You are also making the selfish decision to increase the risk of serious illness among children who CAN NOT be vaccinated because of other serious health problems such as childhood cancer.

As a result:

1. We strongly discourage parents from delaying or breaking up vaccines to give one or two at a time over multiple visits.
2. We ask all parents with under- or non-immunized children to set up a schedule to bring their immunizations up to date.
3. We will not be accepting new patients who absolutely refuse to vaccinate their children.
4. If parents do not agree with our policy, Delaware Valley Pediatrics may not be the practice for their children.

As medical professionals, we feel strongly that vaccinating children and young adults on schedule with currently available vaccines is absolutely the right thing to do. Should you have any doubts, please do not hesitate to discuss your concerns with your provider.

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