

Lakeview Pediatrics Vaccine Policy

- We strive to keep all our patients safely protected from infectious disease to the best of our ability.
- We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent infectious disease and to save lives. Vaccinating children and young adults may be the single most important health-promoting intervention we perform as health care providers and that you can perform as parents/caregivers.
- We firmly believe in the safety of our vaccines. We firmly believe, based on all available evidence, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.
- We firmly believe that all eligible children and young adults should receive all of the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics. The recommended vaccines and the schedule by which they are given are the result of years of scientific study and data gathered from millions of children by our brightest scientists and physicians.
- We do not recommend and will not accommodate alternative vaccine schedules, as there is no evidence that these schedules are safer or more effective than the recommended schedule. Alternative vaccine schedules place children at unnecessary risk for illness by delaying valuable disease protection, and these schedules waste healthcare resources and result in increased cost to parents.
- Parents who do not agree to the recommended vaccines will be required to sign a "Refusal to Vaccinate" waiver to demonstrate your acknowledgement that you are putting your child at unnecessary risk for life-threatening illnesses, illnesses that still exist and can result in severe disability and death.
- Parents who choose not to vaccinate should also know that they are decreasing the herd immunity that protects us all and are increasing the risk of disease outbreak in our community.
- Children over two years old who are not vaccinated according to the recommended schedule (and their family members) will be required to wear a mask in our waiting room in effort to limit the exposure of our most vulnerable patients (newborns who are too young to be vaccinated and immunocompromised patients) to vaccine-preventable illnesses.
- Families who decline vaccination for measles or chicken pox who have children who have fever or rash will not be scheduled to be seen in our office when other patients are present.

As always, we are happy to answer any questions you may have and strive to make the process of getting vaccinated as painless as possible for your child.

*For more information about vaccines, please see the following website:

<http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center>