

## Vaccine Policy Statement

The effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives has been proven beyond any doubt. For this reason, all children and young adults should receive the vaccines recommended by the [Centers for Disease Control](#) and the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#).

Based on all available literature and current studies, vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities. 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. The recommended vaccines and their schedules are the result of years of scientific study. Data has been gathered from millions of children by our brightest scientists and researchers.

As medical professionals and your trusted partners in the care of your children, we feel strongly that vaccinating on schedule with currently available vaccines is the right thing to do for all children and young adults.

Children who are unimmunized may pose a significant risk to some of the most vulnerable patients in our practice including newborns, children who are immune-compromised due to cancer or other chronic illness, pregnant mothers or elderly relatives. We do not want to place these vulnerable populations at risk of contracting vaccine-preventable illnesses. Therefore, **we will no longer accept any new patients to our practice who choose not to vaccinate. Our primary concern is the health of all of our patients and their families.**

**We encourage our current families with unvaccinated children to talk about immunization concerns with your provider and to begin the catch-up schedule for any required but missing vaccinations. Families who do not agree to schedule this catch-up immunization process will be asked to transfer to another healthcare practice or will not be accepted as new patients. We will continue to provide healthcare to those children with medical conditions that preclude vaccinations such as documented allergic reactions or certain neurologic/neuromuscular disorders.** If your child is currently on an altered vaccination schedule at Pediatric Pod, we will continue as your healthcare provider with the intention of full immunization status by 5 years of age.

We understand that our policy will not be acceptable to some families. We hope that all our families will consider immunization to be an appropriate choice for their children.

Thank You,

Management Pediatric Pod

Effective date: 09/01/2019