

PEDIATRIC & ADOLESCENT CENTER, SC
VACCINATION POLICY

- 1) We strongly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and even death.
- 2) We strongly believe in the safety of vaccines.
- 3) We strongly believe that all children and young adults should receive ALL of the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- 4) We strongly believe, based on all available literature, evidence, and current studies, that vaccines DO NOT cause autism or other developmental disabilities.
- 5) We strongly believe that vaccinating children and young adults may be the single most important health-promoting intervention that we perform as health care providers, and that you can perform as parents. The recommended vaccines and vaccine schedule are the results of years of scientific study and data gathered on millions of children. Many physicians today have not seen the devastation caused by vaccine-preventable diseases due to this very fact.
- 6) We strongly believe that public health policy excluding unvaccinated children from school IS appropriate for a school setting, and IS also appropriate for our office setting. The sickest children are seen in a doctor's office and can be a source of spread of infectious disease to patients and the caregivers accompanying them in our office. Some of those patients or caregivers may have a compromised immune system, thus rendering them susceptible to your child's vaccine-preventable disease.
- 7) Also, delaying or spreading out the vaccines goes against expert recommendations, and can put your child, and others, at risk for serious illness or even death. The guidelines were set after studying the efficacy (effectiveness) of administering the vaccines within appropriately time frames. If a parent or caregiver elects to only give a certain number of vaccines at a time, they must agree to come into the office at weekly intervals to stay within the recommended time frame for the vaccines per the CDC schedule. If you do not maintain the weekly intervals, we may ask you to find a new physician.
- 8) We recognize that vaccinating your child may be a very emotional subject for some parents. We will do everything we can to convince you that vaccinating according to schedule is medically necessary. **Newborns entering the practice will complete the first round of recommended vaccines by 6 months of age. If, despite our recommendations, you feel that you cannot follow the schedule of the CDC and AAP we will ask you to find another health care provider.** We do not keep a list of such providers, nor would we recommend any such health care provider. Please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about vaccines with either of our physicians.