

# PEDI-CARE VACCINE POLICY

The Pedi-Care Doctors recommend all of the vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and The American Academy of Pediatrics. Based on all available evidence from scientific studies, these vaccines are safe and effective in preventing serious illness and saving lives.

These vaccines do not cause autism, developmental disabilities, or other illnesses. In addition, other components of the vaccines which are necessary to make vaccines safer and more effective do not cause autism, developmental disabilities and other illnesses. These components include preservatives to keep vaccines sterile, adjuvants such as aluminum salts to improve the immune response, and residuals of the vaccine production process such as small amounts of antibiotic (neomycin), egg protein, or yeast protein. Thimerosal, a mercury based preservative, was removed from most childhood vaccines in 2001. It is still present in some influenza vaccines. Many scientific studies around the world over the last several years have shown no association between thimerosal in vaccines and autism. In fact, autism rates have actually increased since thimerosal was removed from childhood vaccines.

The recommended vaccine schedule provides the best protection for your child. Each vaccine dose is scheduled using 2 factors. First, it is scheduled for the age when the body's immune system will respond the best. Second, it is balanced with the need to provide protection at the earliest possible age. Multiple vaccines at one time do not overwhelm your child's immune system which is capable of fighting thousands of germs every day. If you choose to delay your child's vaccines or follow an "alternate schedule", we will ask you to sign a "Refusal to Vaccinate" acknowledgement. If you absolutely refuse to vaccinate your child, we will ask you to find another doctor who shares your views.

We believe that vaccinating your child according to the recommended schedule is the single most important health promoting intervention we can achieve together. Please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you have with any of the doctors.

The Pedi-Care Doctors  
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Websites:

[www.aap.org/immunizations](http://www.aap.org/immunizations)

[www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines)

[www.immunize.org](http://www.immunize.org)

[www.vaccinateyourbaby.org](http://www.vaccinateyourbaby.org)