



[www.throughtheyearspediatrics.com](http://www.throughtheyearspediatrics.com)

## Through the Years Immunization Policy

At Through the Years Pediatrics we are dedicated to providing the highest quality of evidence-based medical care to our patients. This includes our adherence to the vaccine schedule recommended by national organizations, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

Please be advised that our physicians require all children to be fully immunized according to the CDC/ACIP vaccination schedule unless there are medical contraindications. *If you desire an alternate vaccine schedule, or if you intend to refuse vaccines, we know that this decision puts your child(ren) at risk for vaccine-preventable diseases and increases the health risks for others.* We, at Through the Years Pediatrics, will respectfully decline to be your children's pediatricians. This decision was made with much thought and careful consideration, and is based on our knowledge and all the available scientific evidence of the safety of vaccines and the danger to our patients and our community caused by outbreaks of these diseases.

Our goal is to protect our patients to the best of our ability. Vaccinating children and young adults is the single most important health-promoting intervention we perform as Pediatricians and that you can perform as parents/caregivers. The recommended vaccines and their schedule are the results of decades of scientific study and data gathering on millions of children by thousands of bright, caring, and compassionate scientists and physicians. All available literature, evidence and current studies, prove that vaccines and their components DO NOT cause autism or developmental disabilities. While there are risks to all medical interventions, as your physicians, we carefully consider each child's individual medical history and consider all the risks and benefits. We will not recommend a vaccination if there is a medical contraindication.

Over the past several years, many people have chosen not to vaccinate their children due to misguided concerns regarding autism and potential adverse reactions. As a result of under-immunization, there have been outbreaks nationwide and worldwide of measles, mumps, invasive *H. influenzae* disease and whooping cough. These outbreaks have resulted in unnecessary and preventable deaths.

We recognize that parents have many decisions to make regarding their child's medical care. We will do everything we can to protect your child's health as they grow and develop. A vital part of your child's health relies upon following the most up to date vaccine schedule. Should you have any questions about vaccines, please discuss these with your health care provider in advance of your visit. We do not "break up vaccines" into their components nor do we endorse "alternate" or delayed vaccine schedules. Delaying vaccines to give one or two at a time goes against expert recommendations and leaves your child and other children at risk for infection. Furthermore, should you decide to refuse or significantly delay vaccines for your child, we ask that you seek care from another provider and may elect to dismiss your child from our care.

For more information, please see our website: [www.throughtheyearspediatrics.com](http://www.throughtheyearspediatrics.com)