

PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATES VACCINATION MINIMUM STANDARD POLICY



Statement of Intent: Pediatric Associates (PA) expects for all of its patients to be vaccinated.

Vaccinating patients against preventable diseases is a critical component of high-quality medical care. In order to provide excellent medical care and a safe medical home for all patients, Pediatric Associates established a Vaccination Minimum Standard Policy.

While there is only one approved vaccine schedule, as provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP); if patients/parents are demonstrating a commitment to be vaccinated in accordance with the guidelines listed below, they may continue to be patients of our practice. An AAP "Refusal to Vaccinate" form must still be signed for any CDC Category A vaccine refused, even if not included in the PA Vaccination Minimum Standard Policy.

Effective Date: September 1, 2017

Revised Date: September 20, 2018

POLICY: All Pediatric Associates patients must be vaccinated according to the American Academy of Pediatrics endorsed vaccine schedule as per the guidelines provided within this policy.

1. In order to remain in our practice, the expectations for **new patients** are:
 - a. To accept the vaccination minimum standard required by our policy
 - b. If joining PA as a newborn, to begin the minimum standard vaccination schedule by the two-month well visit
 - c. If joining PA at any other age, to begin timely vaccination by the next well visit
2. For any **existing patient** who continues to refuse all vaccines, and who has no intention to comply with the vaccination minimum standard required by our policy, PA will initiate the process necessary to smoothly transition the patient to another primary care practice.
3. **Existing patients** who are slowly becoming compliant with the vaccination minimum standard required by our policy, and who show commitment to fully comply, shall remain in the practice as long as the below schedule is followed:
 - a. For patients age one year and older, catch-up vaccination must occur *at least every six months*.
 - b. For patients age less than one year, catch-up vaccination must occur *at least every two months*.
4. **Existing patients** who are *partially vaccinated*, yet who still are resistant to completion of the vaccination minimum standard required by our policy, will be provided with the opportunity to begin the completion process by their next well visit.
5. For patients who have a medical contraindication to a particular vaccine, their Primary Care Clinician will confirm and clearly document as to why the contraindication exists. Patients may be required to present a Specialist consult note to support the medical contraindication. **Religious and philosophical exemptions will not be accepted.**
6. Pediatric Associates will no longer be able to commit to being your pediatric health care provider, and will immediately initiate the process necessary to smoothly transition you to another primary care practice, in the following instances:
 - a. If at any time, patients/parents cannot commit to this vaccination minimum standard, with the exception of medical contraindication; or
 - b. If patient/parent notifies Pediatric Associates of their decision to refuse vaccinations; or
 - c. If patient/parent refuses any CDC Category A vaccine **and** refuses to sign the AAP "Refusal to Vaccinate" form