

Pearland Pediatrics Vaccine Policy Statement

- We firmly believe in the **effectiveness** of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.
- We firmly believe in the **safety** of vaccines.
- We firmly 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.
- We believe that vaccines are undeniably the most important public health intervention of the 20th century. They are also one of the most important **health-promoting** interventions we perform as health care providers, and that you can perform as parents or caregivers.
- We believe that the recommended vaccines and their administration schedule are the results of years and years of scientific study and **research**, with data gathered on millions of children by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians. Thanks to this research, we now know that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

It is our policy to vaccinate infants, children, and adolescents according to the recommended immunization schedule set forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control. We do not follow “alternative schedules” as this goes against our expert recommendations and could put your child at risk for serious illness. **All patients in the practice are REQUIRED to receive all the recommended doses of vaccines and they must be up to date by their next well visit according to the American Academy of Pediatrics schedule.** If you do not follow these recommendations and choose NOT to vaccinate your child, then we will ask you to find another health care provider who shares your views.

Our priority is the health and wellbeing of our patients. We feel it is important to us as physicians that we maintain safe facilities for all of our patients, including our most vulnerable patients, such as infants who have not yet had the full range of vaccinations, immunocompromised children such as those with complex heart disease, sickle cell anemia, cancer, autoimmune disorders, or other conditions that require medications to decrease their immune system.

Immunization	Birth (at hospital)	1 month	2 months	4 months	6 months	9 months	12 months	15 months	18 months	4 years	11 years	16 years
Hepatitis B (Hep B)	1st		2nd	3rd	4th*							
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP)			1st	2nd	3rd			4th		5th		
Inactivated Polio (IPV)			1st	2nd	3rd			4th*		5th		
Haemophilus influenzae (Hib)			1st	2nd	3rd			4th				
Pneumococcal (PCV)			1st	2nd	3rd			4th				
Rotavirus (Rota)			1st	2nd	3rd							
Hepatitis A (Hep A)							1st		2nd			
Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)							1st			2nd		
Varicella (Var)							1st			2nd		
Tetanus, diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap)											1st	
Meningococcal Meningitis A											1st	2nd
Meningitis B												1st***
Human papillomavirus (HPV)											2 doses after age 9**	3 doses series if not completed
Shots Per Visit	Birth (at hospital) 1	1 month 0	2 months 2	4 months 2	6 months 2	9 months 0	12 months 3	15 months 2	18 months 1	4 years 3	11 years 2	16 years 2
	*Per the CDC and AAP, four or more doses of IPV and Hepatitis B vaccines may be administered before age 4 when given as part of a combination vaccine containing these components. However, a dose of IPV is still recommended on or after age 4 yrs & at least 6 months after previous dose.											
	**HPV-if series is not started before age 15 or series isn't completed, 3 doses are required						***Meningitis B #2 given at least 6 months later					