



At Northeast Cincinnati Pediatrics:

- We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.
- We firmly believe in the safety of our vaccines.
- We firmly believe that all children should receive all of the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) of the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).
- We firmly believe, based on all available literature, evidence, and current studies, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

All of the children of our doctors and nurse practitioners have been fully vaccinated. All of our providers believe that vaccinating your children may be the *single most important* health-promoting and life-saving intervention that you can perform as parents. Public health policy exists to promote the well being of all the children in our community.

Effective February 19, 2015 our practice will not accept new families that do not vaccinate their children. Established patients that are behind on the State of Ohio required vaccines will be given sufficient notice and time to bring their children up to date. The vast majority of our patients are current on their vaccines. Patients that are behind on the required vaccines will be given one month to begin to comply with our new policy. If your child is behind we will provide easy access to getting your child up to date.

Our policy states:

1. All children must receive all vaccines recommended by the AAP that are mandated for school entry by the [State of Ohio](#), as well as the complete Hib and Prevnar series.
2. All children must begin receiving their immunizations at age 2 months and be up-to-date on all required vaccines (including MMR and Varicella) by the age of 2 years.
3. We fervently recommend utilizing the [immunization schedule](#) as determined by the AAP and CDC.
4. If a parent or caregiver elects to limit their child to 2 vaccines at a time, they must come into the office at 2-4 week intervals to stay within the recommended "window" for the vaccines.

5. If a parent or caregiver elects to limit their child to 1 vaccine at a time, they must come into the office at weekly intervals to stay within the recommended “window” for the vaccines.
6. All parents who don’t follow the AAP vaccine guidelines must sign a waiver that they are utilizing an alternate vaccine schedule. This schedule must be approved by a physician or nurse practitioner.
7. Exceptions for the AAP window include: COVID-19, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis A, HPV, and Influenza.
8. The Hepatitis B series must be completed by the time of school entry.
9. The Hepatitis A series, although strongly recommended by our providers, may be deferred until such time that Ohio requires it for school entry.
10. The Influenza vaccine is strongly recommended yearly for all children over the age of 6 months, however it is not mandatory at this time.
11. The Human Papilloma Virus vaccine series is approved and strongly recommended for older children and teens, ideally between the ages of 11-13, but it is not mandatory at this time.
12. The COVID-19 vaccine is offered to all parents who choose to vaccinate their children against the COVID-19 virus but it is not required.
13. Parents or caregivers who don’t agree with the Northeast Cincinnati Pediatrics vaccine policy will be given a 1 month grace period to find another Pediatrics practice. We do not keep a list of such providers, and will not be able to provide families with names of physicians who accept families who choose not to vaccinate their children. Please recognize that by not vaccinating you are putting your child at unnecessary risk for life-threatening illness and disability, even death.

[CDC guidelines](#) provide a window for when a specific vaccine should be given. This allows sufficient flexibility in getting your child properly vaccinated. We prefer to remain your child’s Pediatrician and will not dismiss any family who is actively working to properly vaccinate their children. Our staff of doctors and nurses is here to help. A link to our recommended vaccine schedule can be found [here](#). Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

For more information please visit the following websites:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/>

<http://www.immunize.org>