

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 firmly believe, based on all available literature and evidence, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

We firmly believe that vaccinating children and young adults is the single most important health-promoting intervention we perform as health care providers and that you can perform as parents/caregivers. The recommended vaccines and the schedule on which they are given are the results of decades of scientific study by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians.

Our intention is to help well-meaning parents understand why choosing not to vaccinate is a dangerous way of thinking. Unvaccinated children are in more danger as the number of unvaccinated families increases and with the newborn population being the most vulnerable.

We are making you aware of these facts to emphasize the importance of vaccinating your child. We recognize that this choice may be a very emotional one for some parents. We desire to work with you to make a decision about vaccines, however, if you should refuse to vaccinate your child, we will ask you to find another primary care practice who shares your views.

We will ask you to make a decision about vaccination before your child's two month well child visit. If you are unable, we may postpone the discussion until another visit when additional time may be allotted. However, if by the four month visit you are unable to commit to the AAP/CDC recommended schedule for infant immunization, you will be asked to find another primary care practice. Our hope is that you will elect to vaccinate your child on time, at the two month check up.

As medical professionals, we feel very strongly that vaccinating children on schedule with currently available vaccines is absolutely the right thing to do for all children and young adults. Thank you for your time in reading this policy, and please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about vaccines with any one of us.

Sincerely,

Your Novant Health Forsyth Pediatrics Providers