

# Unifour Pediatrics Immunization Policy

Revised 5/1/2017

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

At Unifour Pediatrics, we strongly believe that having your child immunized on time is essential to maintaining not only the health of your child, but also the health of the community at large.

**We are not a “delayed-immunizing” or “non-immunizing” pediatric practice.** If such is your intention, then we are not the appropriate pediatric office choice for your family, and we suggest that you seek medical care elsewhere. Of course, in cases of significant acute febrile illness and/or rare specifically defined medical conditions (defined by the CDC, AAP, ACIP, etc.), we may temporarily delay vaccines until the specified medical condition resolves. When the problem resolves, you are expected to resume your child’s immunizations without delay, so please schedule an appointment to catch up these protective vaccines.

We firmly believe that your child should be vaccinated as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) originating from the CDC and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics. **It is our policy that our patients receive the recommended vaccinations according to the ACIP schedule, and at a minimum the required vaccinations for NC. Your child's care here will be terminated if you choose to withhold the required immunizations from your child.** (See reverse side of this document for the required vaccines, internet links to the recommended schedule, and for additional immunization information from reputable sources.) We feel strongly about vaccinations, because we believe that immunizations are best for your child's health. This is why we, as knowledgeable healthcare providers, uniformly immunize our own children and grandchildren per this schedule, without hesitation or concern.

**Regarding specific recommended but not required vaccines:** Certain vaccines (Rotavirus, Hepatitis A, Human Papillomavirus [HPV], and Influenza) are not yet required by the state of NC, but are uniformly recommended by the CDC, ACIP, AAP, AAFP, etc.. In you choose for your child **NOT** to receive or to delay one or more of these specific vaccines, then you will be required to sign a liability release form. By signing this declination form, you (and not Unifour Pediatrics PA) will assume responsibility for any subsequent illness or health problem (including death) from a specific infectious disease, when the child is left unprotected by not having received the related protective immunizations.

**Vaccines are among the best-researched treatments for children, and have, over the decades, dramatically decreased the death rate in children.** Multiple large well-researched scientific studies have shown that the vaccines are safe and *exceedingly less likely*<sup>1</sup> to cause permanent neurologic or developmental diseases than risking the disease itself (As has been touted in the past by celebrities, anecdotal stories, and sensational non-scientific websites). Furthermore, it is essential to keep immunization rates high so that we do not experience outbreaks or resurgences of many of these easily transmittable diseases.

For further information, consult the CDC or AAP websites. For additional immunization information, visit the [National Network for Immunization Information](#), and the internet links on the reverse side of this document.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Nothing is ever never, but the theoretical risk is so exceedingly rare that the benefit of preventing serious illness (including death) far exceeds any extraordinarily tiny theoretical risk of significant permanent problems related to immunizations. If you still have questions and need excellent advice, then we recommend the websites listed on the reverse side of this document:

**See reverse side for links and information**



## North Carolina Immunization Branch

### Immunizations for Children

---

#### Recommended Schedule

The complete list of vaccines and the ages at which children ought to receive doses of vaccine is called a vaccine schedule. You can find the immunization schedule for children and a catch up immunization schedule for children and adolescents here:

- [Childhood Immunization Schedule](#)
- [Catch up Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents](#)

**Required vs. Recommended in North Carolina** All children in North Carolina are required to be vaccinated against:

- [Diphtheria](#)
- [Hepatitis B](#)
- [Hib Disease](#)
- [Measles](#)
- [Meningococcal](#)
- [Mumps](#)
- [Pertussis](#) (whooping cough)
- [Pneumococcal](#)
- [Polio](#)
- [Rubella](#)
- [Tetanus](#)
- [Varicella](#) (chickenpox)

The CDC also recommends children be vaccinated against the following diseases, although immunization against these diseases is not required for children in North Carolina:

- [Hepatitis A](#)
- [Influenza](#)
- [Rotavirus](#)
- [Human Papillomavirus](#)

For details, please refer to: [http://www.immunize.nc.gov/family/nc\\_immnz\\_requirements.htm](http://www.immunize.nc.gov/family/nc_immnz_requirements.htm)

(Specifics from North Carolina: The link shown above will be updated as changes are made over time)

National Network for Immunization Information:

[http://www.who.int/vaccine\\_safety/initiative/communication/network/NNii/en/](http://www.who.int/vaccine_safety/initiative/communication/network/NNii/en/)

CDC Information experts: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/protecting-children/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/child-adolescent.html>

American Academy of Pediatrics – Expert immunization information:

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/immunization/Pages/default.aspx>

CHOP: <http://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-safety/are-vaccines-safe>

Other resources: <http://www.vaccinateyourbaby.org/> and <http://www.vaccineinformation.org/>

For multiple immunization links: <http://www.unifourpeds.com/WellChildCheckupsList.aspx#Immunizations>