



PANC Vaccine Policy

We want the greatest health and safety for the children we care for in our practice.

1. There have been pockets of increased vaccine preventable diseases in the United States. Many of these pockets have involved un-vaccinated children because of their greater risk for these diseases. The recent measles and pertussis infections are primarily in unvaccinated children.

2. Well funded, well polished Anti-Vaccine Groups have continued to re-cycle non evidence based hype regarding vaccines lending confusion to this issue. This emotional appeal to parents leads to confusion and is a disservice to well intentioned parents who want to do what is best for their children.

With these issues in mind, the following reflects our vaccine policy.

PANC Vaccine Policy Statement

- We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives; and that parents want their children safely protected from infectious diseases.

- We firmly believe in the safety of our 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 Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics. There is no medical reason to alter/delay the schedule. Vaccines contain only a small number of unique immune stimulators. We experience far more on a daily basis than all of the vaccines in total.

- We firmly believe, based on all available literature, evidence, and current studies, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities. We firmly believe that thimerosal does not cause autism or other developmental disabilities. Thimerosal has been removed from almost all vaccines

- We firmly believe that much of the protection of vaccines comes from herd immunity. Most vaccines produce immunity in 90-95% of children. The remaining 5% who do not

produce immunity are protected from herd immunity, meaning that a highly vaccinated population limits the spread of most infections. As more people choose not to vaccinate, herd immunity is eroded. Now more than ever, it is important to protect parents who choose to vaccinate their children from those who do not vaccinate.

•We firmly believe that we have spent hundreds of hours educating parents. Our education has been solidly founded on evidence.

There is a growing trend for pediatric practices to decline seeing patients that do not vaccinate. Currently we plan to continue to see non-vaccinated children in the hope that we can educate you and impress upon you the importance of vaccines. There may be a time in the future that we also follow this national trend.

Here are our rules if you do **not** vaccinate:

1. If your child is ill with a possible vaccine preventable disease, then we recommend you enter through the side door after alerting us you are here. Symptoms may include cough, fever, rash, eye drainage or vomiting.
2. A mask may also be required for your child to wear if coughing is present. There will likely be additional tests ordered for your child since they are at risk for these serious diseases.
3. In some cases if a vaccine preventable disease is deemed likely; your child may need to be seen in the ER.

Please do not bring your child into the office if you suspect they may have a vaccine preventable disease without these above precautions. It is our duty to protect our patients in our waiting room; especially those that can't be vaccinated due to age or medical contraindications.

Please let us know if you have any questions about this policy or about vaccines and their safety.

Thank you for your understanding.

Your PANC provider team