

## Doc PAM Vaccine Policy

Our practice is based on science and evidence-based medicine. This is a philosophy that will be consistent throughout the medical care that is provided to your child. Immunizations are a way to prevent possibly catastrophic consequences of vaccine-preventable diseases. We want your child to remain happy, healthy and developing on course.

It is a privilege to be trusted to take care of your child. One of the most important things we can do for your child is protect him/her from preventable disease. Vaccines make up one of the most important advances in science when it comes to saving lives both here and around the world. For your child, being fully vaccinated is a vital step towards short and long-term health. In addition to the individual child, we have the responsibility of considering the health of the community. There are many members we need to also protect: those who are too young or cannot receive immunizations. We do not want anyone to suffer the consequences of unnecessary exposure or inadequate protection.

We will recommend complying with the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics. This schedule is based on science, age-appropriate risks for disease, and years of studies on the safety and efficacy of each vaccine given both alone and in combination. ***Our office does not consider any of the vaccines on the schedule\* to be "optional." Any variation of the recommended schedule, including omitting, splitting, or delaying one or more vaccines, is simply not the standard of care.*** The only time your child would NOT receive a vaccine on the recommended schedule would be in the scenario of a ***medical*** contraindication. If at any time you have questions or concerns about any of the vaccines, please speak up. The topic of Infectious disease and Immunizations is both complex and amazing. We would love to explain anything you need to understand about how these shots will be protecting your child. In addition we have plenty of resources that discuss the research and safety of our current vaccine schedule.

If you have a newborn, and have concerns about vaccines, or are not wanting to fully vaccinate your child, ***we require that you schedule a Vaccine Consult prior to your child's "2-month" visit.***

If you decide you would NOT like your child to be fully vaccinated, we will ask that you find a new Healthcare Provider that may better align with your goals for the care of your child.

\*The schedule we use in our office at DOC PAM