



Roanoke Partners In Health Vaccination Policy Statement

At RPIH, we firmly believe:

- In the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and save lives;
- In the safety of vaccines;
- That all children and young adults should receive recommended vaccines according to the immunization schedule published by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP);
- Based on extensive research and current scientific evidence, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities;
- That vaccinations are one of the most important interventions we provide as healthcare professionals and one of the most important health decisions you make for your child.

The recommended vaccines and immunization schedule are the result of many years of scientific study and careful review of data involving millions of children. They are designed to protect children at the safest and most appropriate times in their development while minimizing the number of visits needed to achieve full protection.

Because vaccines have been so successful, many parents today have never seen diseases such as polio, tetanus, whooping cough, bacterial meningitis, or chickenpox. While this is a tremendous achievement, it can make these illnesses seem rare or unlikely. However, when vaccination rates decline, these preventable diseases can return and may result in serious complications, hospitalization, and, in some cases, death.

We share this information not to pressure or alarm you, but to emphasize the importance of protecting your child. We understand that vaccination decisions can feel emotional and personal. We are committed to listening to your concerns and providing clear, evidence-based guidance to help you make informed decisions.

In certain circumstances, we may consider limited adjustments to the immunization schedule to address specific concerns. However, administering only one or two vaccines at a time is not consistent with AAP recommendations and may leave your child unprotected for longer periods. Children who are not fully vaccinated may require additional evaluation and may leave your child unprotected for longer periods. Children who are not fully vaccinated may require additional evaluation or testing if they become ill. International travel may also increase risk due to higher rates of vaccine-preventable diseases in some regions.

RPIH does not accept families who do not intend to vaccinate their infants. If an adjusted schedule is requested, vaccinations must begin by 6 months of age, with a plan to complete the primary vaccination series by 2 years of age.

We are also unable to accept transfers of unvaccinated children over 6 months of age into our practice. Families transferring to RPIH will have 30 days to provide documentation of all vaccines currently due to according to the AAP immunization schedule.

We are always happy to discuss questions or concerns with you individually. Our shared goal is keeping your child healthy, protected, and thriving.

Thank you for the opportunity to partner with your family's healthcare needs.

Roanoke Partners In Health