



THE PEDIATRICIANS OF HYDE PARK

VACCINE POLICY STATEMENT

Patients name: _____

DOB: _____

We firmly believe in the safety and effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.

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, evidence and current studies, that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

We firmly believe that thimerosal, a preservative that has been in vaccines for decades and remains in some vaccines, does not cause autism or other developmental disabilities. Despite the evidence, thimerosal has been removed from all vaccines given in this office, for many years.

We firmly believe that vaccinating children and young adults may be the single most important health-promoting intervention we perform as health care providers, and that you can perform as parents/caregivers. The recommended vaccine schedule is the result of years of scientific study and data on millions of children.

The vaccine campaign is truly a victim of its own success, it is precisely because vaccines are so effective at preventing illness that we are even discussing whether or not they should be given. Because of vaccines many people have never seen a child with polio, tetanus, whooping cough, bacterial meningitis or even chickenpox. Such success can make us complacent or even lazy about vaccinating. But such an attitude, if it becomes widespread, permits the reappearance of all these diseases. This is currently occurring in war torn countries where routine medical care and vaccination have been interrupted.

By not vaccinating your child you are taking advantage of thousands who do vaccinate their children, which decreases the likelihood that your child will contract one of these diseases. Also, children that are unvaccinated put other children in our practice at risk; particularly those who are too young to receive their vaccines or who are immunosuppressed.

If you decline to vaccinate your child, we will ask you to find another health care provider.

We do not keep a list of such providers nor can we recommend any physician who does not understand the importance of vaccinations.

Parents/Guardian Signature:

Date:

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