



## IMMUNIZATION POLICY

At Evans Pediatric Clinic we are committed to doing what we believe is best for our patients and families. We respect the rights of parents/guardians to make decisions regarding the health care of your children and understand that you believe you are making the right decision. However, we believe that all children and young adults should be immunized according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published schedule. It is the same schedule recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians. Vaccinations are perhaps the single most important intervention to preserve health and life that healthcare providers and parents can give to children.

It is well known that the most effective means to prevent some of the most devastating illnesses is through immunization. Immunizations have saved lives and prevented serious illnesses so well over the past 60 years that we now find ourselves engaged in discussions about them. Because of that success there is a lack of awareness and respect for how serious those diseases are, as well as their devastating consequences. It is because of vaccine refusal that we have had disease outbreaks which have disrupted lives and harmed people. By refusing to immunize your child, you are taking advantage of thousands of others who do immunize, and your decision places not only your children but other children and adults at risk for getting a life-threatening diseases.

Therefore, the providers of Evans Pediatric Clinic:

require that all active patients must receive immunizations according to the schedule recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,

require that immunizations be started at the first well visit when they are due,

are willing to discuss immunizations at a separate visit scheduled only for that purpose.

If you are unwilling to comply with this policy, you will need to find another health care provider. Vaccinations are the safest and most effective means we have of preventing some very serious diseases in our children and community. There is no controversy regarding their safety in our opinion and it is the right thing to do to protect them.