



Vaccine Policy Statement

Cobb Pediatrics is dedicated to providing our patients and their families with the best possible care. We are committed to practicing medicine in compliance with evidence-based practices.

For the safety of the community and our patient population, Cobb Pediatrics follows the immunization schedule recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

We do not offer alternative vaccine schedules, and we do not skip, defer, delay, or split vaccines unless medically necessary.

Cobb Pediatrics **requires** core childhood immunizations- such as DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis), IPV (polio), MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella), Hib (Haemophilus influenzae type b), hepatitis A, hepatitis B, varicella (chickenpox), PCV (pneumococcal conjugate), and meningococcal (as age-appropriate)—for all patients in our practice. While we strongly recommend optional vaccines such as seasonal influenza, COVID-19, HPV, and RSV for additional protection, they are not required for your child to be seen in our office.

We understand that some parents may refuse to vaccinate their children despite our efforts to provide them with accurate medical and scientific data. While we respect a parent's personal beliefs and decision-making rights for their child, we believe that you are putting your child at unnecessary risk for life-threatening illness, disability, or even death- and we cannot assume medical liability for your choices. Therefore, **parents who refuse to vaccinate according to the recommended schedule will be asked to find another healthcare provider that shares your views.**

- We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.
- We firmly believe in the safety of vaccines.
- We firmly believe that all children and young adults should receive all the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by 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. 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.

Our goal is to help parents understand the importance of vaccines, and to avoid the possibility of medical complications or death of their child due to vaccine preventable illness. Concerns or questions regarding vaccines can be discussed with your provider during any visit.