



# INDIAN CREST PEDIATRICS

## VACCINE POLICY STATEMENT

- ❖ We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.
- ❖ We firmly believe in the safety of our vaccines.
- ❖ 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 Prevention 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 was used in vaccines for decades and remains only in the flu vaccine, 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. The recommended vaccines and their given schedules are the results of years and years of scientific study and data gathering on millions of children by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians.

These things being said, we recognize that there has always been and will likely always be controversy surrounding vaccinations. We are making you aware of these facts not to scare you or coerce you, but to emphasize the importance of vaccinating your child. We recognize that the choice may be a very emotional one for some parents. We will do everything we can to convince you that vaccinating according to the schedule is the right thing to do. However, should you have any doubts, please discuss these with your health care provider. In some cases, we may alter the schedule to accommodate parental concerns or reservations. **Please be advised, however, that delaying or “breaking up the vaccines” to give one or two at a time over two or more visits goes against expert recommendations, and can put your child at risk for serious illness (or even death) and goes against our medical advice as providers at Indian Crest Pediatrics.** Furthermore, please realize that you will be required to sign a “Refusal to Vaccinate” acknowledgment in the event of lengthy delays or refusal to vaccinate.

As pediatric medical professionals, we feel very strongly that vaccinating children on schedule with currently available vaccines is absolutely the right thing to do for all children and young adults. Thank you for your time in reading this policy, and please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about vaccines with any one of us.