

MODESTO PEDIATRICS

IMMUNIZATION POLICY

Due to the resurgence of measles and other deadly, vaccine preventable illnesses, as of March 1, 2015 Modesto Pediatrics will be implementing a new immunization policy. This policy will be geared towards ensuring that all our patients meet current immunization standards, and thus are protected from these deadly illnesses.

We respect each parent's right to choose whether or not they immunize their child. For the protection of our patients at Modesto Pediatrics, as well as other children in the community, we will be adhering to the standard of care as set forth by the Center for Disease Control and American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines on immunization practices. Our goal is to ensure that by 18-24 months of age, all of our patients are up to date on their immunizations while still allowing parents flexibility in the timing and number of immunizations given during each appointment.

Modesto Pediatrics fully supports every parent's right to make medical decisions for their children. Unfortunately, during this time of resurgence of common vaccine preventable illnesses, we feel ethically and morally obligated to ensure the safety of all our patients. In line with our commitment to patient health, we will be implementing the following immunization protocol.

- First MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) and Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccines by 18 months of age.
- Four doses of DTaP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis/Whooping Cough), Hib (Haemophilus Influenza Type B), & PCV13/Prevnar 13 (Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine) by 18 months of age.
- Three doses of IPV (Inactivated Polio Vaccine) by 18 months of age.
- Two doses of Hepatitis A by 24 months of age.
- Three doses of Hepatitis B by 24 months of age.
- Currently under-immunized patients in our practice will be brought up to full immunization status within 24 months.

Our goal at Modesto Pediatrics is to ensure the safety of all our patients as well as other children in our community. To achieve this goal we are willing to work with each of our families on an individual immunization schedule to ensure that our parents are comfortable with both the timing and number of immunizations administered at each preplanned visit. In conjunction with the use of an alternate schedule you will be required to sign a Refusal to Vaccinate form that acknowledges your awareness of the life-threatening risk of delaying immunizations.

Unfortunately, those families in our practice who wish not to comply with the standard of care outlined above, and do not immunize their children, will be released from our practice. We understand that a number of our families will continue not to immunize and choose to leave our practice, and we will be saddened by their leaving. We cherish each and every one of our patients and have enjoyed watching them grow and thrive through the years. The physicians in our practice hope that each parent understands our desire to ensure all our patients remain healthy and unharmed by vaccine preventable illnesses. Even one vaccine preventable death or bad outcome is too many.

If you would like further information on any of the vaccines that we recommend, please feel free to ask any one of our staff members or physicians.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation,
Dr. Lenser & Dr. Truscello