



SOUTH RIDING PEDIATRICS

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FARRELL PEDIATRICS

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Dear Families of Farrell Pediatrics and South Riding Pediatrics:

To best protect our patients, we have updated our immunization policy in response to the growing risk of exposure to vaccine-preventable diseases, including recent local outbreaks of measles and pertussis. We remain deeply concerned about these risks. As pediatricians, it is our responsibility to ensure that our office remains a safe environment—especially for our most vulnerable patients who cannot be vaccinated, such as newborns, children undergoing cancer treatment, organ transplant recipients, and those who are otherwise immunocompromised.

We do not accept patients who have not received and will not receive any vaccines.

We strongly feel that childhood vaccines are safe and effective, and we strongly recommend all vaccines to be given according to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) schedule. These are our practice's minimum vaccine requirements:

- All patients need to have received their first dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine by the age of 1 month.
- For parents that wish to split up the 2-, 4- and 6-month vaccines, we require that all 2-month vaccines are completed by age 3-months, all 4-month vaccines are completed by age 5 months and all 6-month vaccines are completed by age 7-months.
- All patients need to have received their first dose of the MMR and Varicella vaccine by the age of 15 months.
- All patients need to receive two doses of the Hepatitis A vaccine by the age of 2 years.
- All patients need to be caught up per the AAP vaccine schedule by their 6th birthday.
- All patients need to receive a Tdap booster and meningococcal ACYW vaccine by age 13 years.
- All patients need to receive a meningococcal ACYW booster by age 18 years.
- We understand that these timing guidelines may need to be modified slightly to account for appropriate spacing in between vaccine doses.

We have the same policy for those patients who are being seen for sick visits as for those being seen for well childcare. If a patient has not received vaccines per the above minimum requirements, they will be reminded of our policy and be asked to schedule a vaccine appointment. This will be noted in the patient's chart. If after 30 days, vaccinations are not administered, we will no longer be able to provide care.

Sincerely,

The Doctors of Farrell Pediatrics and South Riding Pediatrics