

## **Menlo Clinic Pediatric Vaccine Policy**

We firmly believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives. We firmly believe that vaccines are safe and that all children and young adults should receive all of the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). The recommended vaccines and their schedule are the results of many years of scientific study and data gathering on millions of children by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians, and vaccinating may be the single most important health-promoting thing we do as physicians, and that you can do as parents. We will do everything we can to help you understand how important it is to vaccinate according to the schedule.

**We require all children in our practice to begin immunizing no later than age 4 months, and to be fully immunized by age 2 years.**

If you choose to refuse to vaccinate your child despite our efforts, we will ask you to find another health care provider who shares your views. We do not keep a list of such providers, nor would we recommend such a provider. Please recognize that by not vaccinating, you are putting your child, and possibly other children, at unnecessary risk for life-threatening illness and disability or death. Our current families and patients have asked us to take a stand on this issue; to support a healthy, immunized population in our exam rooms, reception areas, and throughout our clinic, and we firmly believe that vaccinating on schedule is the right way to accomplish this.

Thank you for your time in reading this policy. We look forward to partnering with you in caring for the health and well-being of your children.