



## Burlington Pediatrics/ Mebane Pediatrics Vaccine Policy

We at Burlington and Mebane Pediatrics are dedicated to providing the best care that we can for our patients and to helping make our community safe and healthy. To achieve these goals effectively, we must enter into a partnership based on mutual trust with the parents of our patients. We believe that immunizations are one of the most important health interventions all parents can choose on behalf of their children. We believe vaccinations are a critical part of caring for our patients and protecting our entire community.

While we recognize and respect the parents' role as the ultimate decision maker for their child's healthcare, we believe strongly that we are obligated to deliver the best and safest healthcare possible for our patients and our community. Although we strongly support all recommended vaccines, there are several vaccines that we must insist that our patients receive in a timely manner to remain in our practice. They are effective in preventing diseases that can and do cause severe illness, brain damage and death. These are: Pediarix™ containing Diphtheria, Tetanus and Acellular Pertussis (DTaP)/Hep B/IPV(Polio) ; Hemophilus Influenza Type B (Hib); Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (Prevnar); Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR); Varicella; Tdap (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis) and Menveo (Meningococcal ACWY). Our practice, like almost all other pediatric practices, provides several combination vaccines, such as MMR. Combination vaccines help reduce discomfort for your child and are safe. For several combination vaccines, the individual components are not available separately.

Burlington Pediatrics/ Mebane Pediatrics affirms and abides by the **American Academy of Pediatrics Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule**. All patients are expected to receive the following minimum vaccines starting at 2 months of age. These vaccine recommendations also conform to **North Carolina law**, pursuant to [NC General Statute](#) (G.S 130A- 152 through 130A- 157), which defines the required vaccines for NC residents, which is followed by NC daycares and schools.

- DTaP/Hep B/IPV: 3 doses by 9 months
- DTaP: 4 doses by 18 months, 5 doses by 6 years
- IPV: 4 doses by 6 years
- Hib: 2 doses by 6 months, 3 doses by 18 months
- Prevnar: 3 doses by 9 months, 4 doses by 18 months
- MMR: 1 dose by 15 months, 2 doses by 6 years
- Varicella: 1 dose by 15 months, 2 doses by 6 years
- Tdap: 1 dose by 12 years
- Menveo: 1 dose by 12 years, 2 doses by 17 years

In addition, we highly encourage you to consider for your child the vaccines for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Rotavirus, Influenza, Hepatitis A, COVID-19, and Meningococcal B (MenB), which are proven to reduce the risk of infection, hospitalization, and death from these illnesses.

We encourage you to seek out and review information from factual, evidence-based sources about the benefits and potential side effects of vaccines. We recommend including:

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)  
[Immunizations - HealthyChildren.org](#)  
[Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Vaccine Education Center](#)

You are invited to schedule an appointment with one of our providers or plan to talk about this at your next well child visit.

We look forward to engaging with you to discuss immunizations and support you in this important decision-making process to protect your child(ren) from serious vaccine-preventable illnesses. All routine childhood vaccines are available through our office or through the local county health departments. Refusal of these vaccinations indicates a significant difference in philosophy of care and undermines the doctor-patient relationship. It is our hope that no patient be discharged from our practice due to vaccine refusal.

If you feel you are unable to partner with us on at least these required vaccines for your child, we will with great reluctance send a letter to you requesting you find a different medical provider for your child. To ensure a smooth transition of care, we will continue to provide urgent medical care for 30 days following discharge. After that period our obligation ends. You will be asked to complete an *Authorization to Transfer Medical Records* form on which you designate your child(ren)'s new clinic or medical provider. As of March 1, 2023, all patients, regardless of prior vaccine history, will be required to follow this policy. Medical exemptions will be considered.