

**Burlington Pediatrics**  
**Burlington Pediatrics West**  
**Mebane Pediatrics**

Vaccine Policy

We at Burlington 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 a parent can do on behalf of their children, and we want all of our patients to benefit. 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); and Varicella.

All newborn patients at Burlington Pediatrics are expected to receive the following minimum vaccines starting at 2 months of age: (additionally, these are usually required by daycares and schools)

- DTaP/Hep B/IPV: 3 doses by 9 months, 4 doses of DTaP and IPV by 18 months, 5 doses of DTaP and IPV by 5 years
- Hib: 2 doses by 6 months, three doses by 18 months
- Prevnar: 3 doses by 9 months, 4 doses by 18 month
- MMR: 1 dose by 15 months, 2 doses by 5 years
- Varicella: 1 dose by 15 months, 2 doses by 5 years

We encourage you to take the time to read quality papers and internet sites about the benefits of vaccines. One of the best internet site for vaccine education can be found at [vec.chop.edu/service/vaccine-education-center/home.html](http://vec.chop.edu/service/vaccine-education-center/home.html). The federal government also maintains information at the CDC web site: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines). Our providers and staff are pleased to answer any questions about our new policy in person. Please make an appointment to discuss this with one of our providers or plan to talk about this at your next well child visit.

We hope that you will review the accurate information about immunizations here as well as on respected internet sites and consider allowing your child(ren) to receive this important protection. These and all other childhood vaccines are available through our office at modest cost, or through the local county health department at no charge. Refusal of these vaccinations indicates a significant difference of philosophy of care and it would be best that we terminate our doctor-patient relationship. It is our sincere hope that no patient is discharged from our practice due to vaccine refusal.

If you cannot work with us and obtain at least these required vaccines for your child, we will with great reluctance send a letter to you discharging your family from our care. If your children require urgent medical care within the following 30 days we will provide that care. After that period our obligation ends. When you have chosen another pediatrician, please complete and return by mail or fax an Authorization to Transfer Medical Records form. We will then forward your medical records to this new provider.