



# GOLD PEDIATRICS LLC

Errol K Douglas, M.D.

Orchid Mesias, CRNP

## Gold Pediatrics LLC Vaccine Policy Statement

**We firmly believe, in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives.**

**We firmly believe,** in the safety of our vaccines.

**We firmly believe** that all children and young adults should receive all the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**We firmly believe, based on all available literature, evidence, and current studies,** that vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

**We firmly believe** that thimerosal, a preservative that has been in vaccines for decades and remains in some vaccines, does not cause autism or other developmental disabilities.

**We firmly believe** that vaccinating children and young adults may be the single most important health-promoting intervention we perform as healthcare providers, and that you can perform as parents/caregivers. The recommended vaccines and their schedule are the results of years and years of scientific study and data gathering on millions of children by thousands of our brightest scientists and physicians.

It is precisely because vaccines are so effective at preventing illness that most parents have never seen a child with polio, tetanus, whooping cough, bacterial meningitis or even chickenpox; most people have never heard of a friend or family member who died from one of these diseases.

We present this information to emphasize the importance of vaccinating your child. We recognize that the choice may be an emotional one, and we will try our best to address your concerns and help explain that vaccinations are in the best interest of your child and the community as a whole.

In rare circumstances, such as illness we may advise vaccines to be delayed or postponed. However, it is important to note that this is not in line with the best practices recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Delaying vaccines can put your child at risk for serious illness or even death, and it goes against the collective medical advice of the providers at Gold Pediatrics LLC.

If you should refuse to vaccinate your child according to these recommendations, we will ask you to find another healthcare provider who shares your views. Recognize that by choosing not to vaccinate, we believe you are putting your child at unnecessary risk for life-threatening illness, disability, and even death.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

All patients in the practice are strongly encouraged to receive hepatitis B vaccine at birth, DTaP, Hib, polio, pneumococcal, and rotavirus vaccines at two months of age; continue at four months of age and six months of age; measles, mumps and rubella, varicella (chickenpox), Hepatitis A at 12 months of age; DTaP, Hib, Pneumococcal at 15 month of age; and Hepatitis A vaccine given at 18 months of age;

- The Gardasil vaccine (HPV) helps prevent cervical cancer and genital warts, and other diseases. It can be given in two doses(shots) if started before 15 years old, and three doses (shots) are needed if given after 15 years old. We recommend giving the HPV vaccination between the ages of 11 and 13 years old. HPV can be given at 9 years old.
- Annual Influenza Vaccine.
- Also, if RSV vaccine was not given during pregnancy, your newborn should receive an RSV preventive antibody before or during the RSV season. You can view a parent-friendly version of this schedule at [www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4050.pdf](http://www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4050.pdf). or ask any of our staff for a copy.
- COVID-19 vaccine is also recommended to those who need it.

Patient Age	Vaccines required at corresponding ages
Newborn	Hepatitis B
2 month	DTaP, Hep B, IPV (Pediarix) HIB, Rotavirus, Pneumococcal
4 month	DTaP, Hep B, IPV (Pediarix) HIB, Rotavirus, Pneumococcal
6 month	DTaP, Hep B, IPV (Pediarix) HIB, Pneumococcal
12 month	MMR, Varicella (ProQuad), Hepatitis A
15 month	DTaP, HIB, Pnemococcal
18 month	Hepatitis A
4-6 years	DTaP, IPV (Kinrix) MMR, Varicella (ProQuad)
11 year	Tdap, Meningococcal ACWY, <b><i>HPV (Gardasil)</i></b> can be started at 9 years old
16 year	<b><i>Meningococcal B</i></b> , Meningococcal ACWY
	All vaccines listed above are strongly encouraged and recommended by Gold Pediatrics LLC. Vaccines that are italicized and bold are not mandatory. Other vaccines not listed are recommended but not mandatory are the Influenza vaccine, and for newborns the Beyfortus RSV vaccine. Covid-19 booster vaccine is recommended to those who need it. Vaccines listed are mandatory and needed to be a patient of Gold Pediatrics LLC.

As medical professionals we feel strongly that vaccinating your child on schedule is absolutely the right thing to do. Thank you for taking the time to read this policy. Please feel free to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about vaccines with any of our providers; Dr. Douglas or Nurse Practitioner Orchid Mesias.

I have received and read the Vaccine Policy of Gold Pediatrics LLC.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date