

Pediatrics at Oyster Point Vaccine Policy

Dr Brian Butcher and his team welcome you to Pediatrics at Oyster Point. We are thankful to have you here and are grateful you have entrusted us with the care of your children. Pediatrics at Oyster Point strives to provide the best care possible for your children. We desire trusting, collaborative and long-lasting relationships. The very heart of our mission is to ensure the safety and well-being of all families in our practice. We feel one of the main ways to do this is by vaccinating. Pediatrics at Oyster Point cares deeply for its patients and wants to protect them from vaccine preventable illnesses.

All providers stay up to date on current research and literature pertaining to vaccines and best practices in pediatrics. Numerous providers in the office have witnessed the devastating consequences of vaccine preventable disease and the negative impact it has on families. **As such, Pediatrics at Oyster Point is an office which requires patients to be vaccinated according to policies set forth by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the American Academy of Pediatrics for school attendance.** Optional vaccines, such as influenza and COVID, are recommended, but not required by the providers to be a part of the practice. If for any reason (personal, religious or political) you choose not to vaccinate, POP will not be able to care for your child, but will be happy to forward the records to another office of your choosing.

Our providers and staff strive to keep our clinics safe for infants and children who have not yet received the full complement of vaccines, as well as seniors, pregnant women and other individuals with compromised immune systems. With ongoing outbreaks of diseases, such as measles and pertussis, and globalization, vaccine preventable illness and other diseases can spread quickly to susceptible individuals within a population.

The goal of our vaccine policy is first and foremost to protect vulnerable infants and children from vaccine preventable disease and secondly to ensure POP does not pose health risks to anyone who visits our practice. We are committed to providing you with accurate and up to date information, while creating a safe and informed space where we can discuss your questions and concerns.

We require immunization records for all patients transferring into our practice. If your child is behind on vaccines, we will work with you to catch up your children in the safest and most prudent manner.

Again, it is our privilege to be a part of the team caring for your children! Please be advised that signing the vaccine policy, once established in the practice, lets us know you agree with the policy. At any time, you can change your mind and choose to revoke your decision. **However, we also reserve the right to request you transfer to another practice in an effort to ensure the safety of our other patients.** Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding.