

## **Skylands Pediatrics Vaccine Policy**

For the past many years our doctors and nurse practitioner have done our best to support families who are concerned about vaccinating their children. However, recent events have caused us to re-evaluate our policy regarding unvaccinated or under-vaccinated children using our practice for health care. Around the country, the actions of relatively few parents have put many of the most vulnerable at risk. Whooping cough and measles are now in full resurgence. These diseases are life threatening, especially to our youngest patients. In the face of recent outbreaks, we no longer have the option of supporting families who choose not to vaccinate or to delay recommended vaccines. It is our duty to provide the safest environment possible to receive health care.

**Effective June 1, 2019, our practice will not accept new families that do not vaccinate their children. Established patients that are behind on their required vaccines will be required to bring their children up to date and will be given one month to comply with our policy after notification.**

At Skylands Pediatrics:

- We firmly believe in the safety and effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness.
- We firmly believe that all children should receive all of the recommended vaccines according to the schedule published by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/acip>) (<http://www2.aap.org/immunization/izschedule.html>)
- We firmly believe based on all available literature, evidence and current studies, that vaccines do not cause autism or other development disabilities.
- All children must receive all vaccines recommended by the AAP and mandated by the State of NJ and the State of PA.
- Children who have not had the MMR vaccine and are over 1 year of age, must have this done at first vaccine visit.
- Children will need to come in at 1-4 week intervals (depending upon how many vaccines they elect to receive at each visit) until they have caught up.
- Parents or caregivers who choose not to comply with Skylands Pediatrics Vaccine Policy, will be given a 1 month grace period after notification in order to find another pediatric practice to care for their child.

**We prefer to remain your child's pediatrician and will not dismiss any family who is actively working to properly vaccinate their child.**



# Primary Care Partners

Affiliated with  
Atlantic Health System  
Skylands Pediatrics

Carol E. Calabrese, MD, FAAP  
Inna Meskin, MD, FAAP  
Alexis Capozzoli, MD, FAAP  
Ashwini Achar, MD, MPA  
Renee Thomas, APN

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have received a copy of the  
Skylands Pediatrics vaccine policy.

Child/Children's name(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Will be vaccinating

Will **NOT** be vaccinating