

In 2000, measles was eradicated from the USA.

In 2019 there has been a resurgence of measles in multiple states with cases reaching over 1000. This should not be happening! The MMR vaccine has been proven safe and effective. Research conducted in countries all over the world has not ever shown a link between the MMR vaccine and autism. The initial study that raised this concern researched only 12 children and was later found to be fraudulent and the results scientifically invalid. The study was retracted and the doctor who published it lost his license to practice.

Furthermore, as of June 2019 there is an outbreak of Hepatitis A in Arizona. This virus is present in the feces of an infected person and spread by unwashed hands. It is also a vaccine preventable illness.

Phoenix Pediatrics believes that the current vaccine schedule recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Center for Disease Control, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices and the American Academy of Family Physicians is in the best interest of all of our children. This schedule is based on specific infection risk at different ages, extensive medical research and scientific data confirming that benefits far outweigh any side effects or complications of immunizing. Additionally, there is no science supporting an alternative vaccination schedule.

Phoenix Pediatrics is nationally known for our expertise in treating children with special needs. Some of these children could be placed at risk because of exposure to an unvaccinated child who could bring a vaccine preventable infectious disease into our office.

At Phoenix Pediatrics we understand and respect the fact that all parents love their children and want to make the best possible decisions regarding their care. All of our own children and grandchildren have been fully vaccinated. Now that a minority of people is choosing not to vaccinate, we are all at risk again. After a great deal of thought and discussion we have made the decision to no longer continue to treat children who are not vaccinated.

We understand that some may disagree and choose to go elsewhere for care. Several other reputable practices in Phoenix have already made the same decision. As pediatricians, we have an obligation to protect all of our patients from vaccine preventable diseases, particularly those with special needs who are at greatest risk. We believe that there is a social responsibility to ensure 'herd immunity', where we all benefit from enough people being immunized in the community.

It is our sincere hope that you continue to trust us to care for your children. We have administered hundreds of thousands of vaccines for many years and none of us have ever seen a significant vaccine reaction with any long term negative effects. **We are committed to providing excellent care, and vaccines are an extremely important part of that care.**

RESOURCES:

[Center for Disease Control](#)

[HealthyChildren.org](#)

[Children's Hospital of Philadelphia](#)

[Talking about vaccines with Dr. Paul Offit, MD \(American Pediatrician and vaccine expert\)](#)

*Human Papilloma Virus vaccine (Gardasil) and Influenza vaccines are optional vaccines on the schedule and not required.