



2025 Chaneyville Road, Suite 200, Owings, MD 20736 | Phone: 410-286-3865 | Fax: 410-286-8085 |  
www.DunkirkFamilyPractice.com

## To Our Valued Parents and Guardians:

At Dunkirk Family Practice, the health and safety of your children—and every patient in our care—is our highest priority. Vaccination is a critical part of preventive care, protecting not only individual children but also our broader community from serious and preventable diseases.

We are writing to inform you of an important update to our pediatric vaccine policy.

## Policy Update: Vaccine Schedule Requirements

Effective June 15, 2025, **Dunkirk Family Practice will no longer accept new pediatric patients who are not following the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) vaccination schedule.** This schedule, developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is based on decades of scientific research and is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

## Important Note for Current Pediatric Patients

We understand that some of our current patients may be behind on their vaccines for various reasons. In order to continue receiving care at Dunkirk Family Practice, we are asking all existing pediatric families to bring their children **up to date with the AAP vaccine schedule within the next two years.**

Our team is here to help you make a catch-up plan, answer questions, and provide support throughout the process. If you believe your child may need exemptions for medical reasons, we ask that you provide documentation from a licensed healthcare provider for clinical review.

## Summary of Vaccine Policy

- **New patients:** Must be up to date with AAP-recommended vaccines. We are no longer accepting new patients who are intentionally unvaccinated or significantly delayed without medical cause.
- **Current patients:** Must become up to date **within two years** to continue care at our practice.
- **Exemptions:** Only valid **medical exemptions** with proper documentation will be considered. We do not accept philosophical or personal belief exemptions.
- **Education and support:** We are committed to respectful, open conversations about vaccines and are happy to answer any questions or concerns.

We do not take this decision lightly. It is based on our responsibility to protect the most vulnerable children in our practice—especially newborns, immunocompromised patients, and those who cannot be vaccinated for legitimate medical reasons.



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Thank you for working with us to provide the safest environment possible for all our families. To schedule a vaccine appointment or request a review of your child's immunization records, please contact our office or log in to the patient portal.

Warm regards,

**Dunkirk Family Practice, PA**