CONTINUE LEARNING

For more information about the benefits, safety and effectiveness of vaccines, visit:

OhioAAP.org
HealthyChildren.org
cdc.gov/vaccines/acip

Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
Mission Statement

The Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP) promotes the health, safety and well-being of children and adolescents so they may reach their full potential. The Ohio AAP accomplishes this by addressing the needs of children, their families, and their communities, and by supporting Chapter members through advocacy, education, research, service, and improving the systems through which they deliver pediatric care.

GET THE FACTS

Vaccines Do NOT Cause Autism

Numerous studies, including a 2011 study by the Institute of Medicine and a 2013 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, prove that immunizations and their ingredients do NOT cause Autism Spectrum Disorder.

In fact, Autism Speaks, the country’s largest autism science and advocacy organization, released this statement in 2015:

“Over the last two decades, extensive research has asked whether there is any link between childhood vaccinations and autism. The results of this research are clear: Vaccines do not cause autism.” - Autism Speaks

The Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics and our members know some parents still have concerns. We encourage you to discuss these concerns with your physician and learn the facts about vaccine safety and effectiveness and ensure your child is fully protected.

Fast VAX Facts App

• Trusted facts about immunization safety and effectiveness
• Videos from pediatricians
• Answers to frequently asked questions by pediatricians
• An interactive immunization schedule to track your child’s immunizations
• Alerts on news that impact your child’s health

Download the Fast VAX Facts App in the App Store or on Google Play.
The safety and effectiveness of vaccines are under constant study. Because vaccines are designed to be given routinely during well-child care visits, they must be extraordinarily safe. Safety testing begins as soon as a new vaccine is contemplated, continues until it is approved by the FDA, and is monitored indefinitely after licensure. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) works closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make recommendations for vaccine use.

1. **Vaccines are thoroughly studied before they are licensed for public use.** Clinical trials are conducted to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of any single or combination vaccine before it can be brought to the market. They are first tested in laboratory and animal studies. If the results show the vaccine is safe, additional testing in people must be conducted before the vaccine can be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

2. **There is a strong system in place to monitor the safety of vaccines.** Vaccine safety is a shared responsibility among the federal government, state and local health departments, other partners and the public. To help meet this shared responsibility, government agencies and their partners have established several coordinated systems to monitor the safety of vaccines after they have been licensed for public use. These systems, such as the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), are used together to help scientists continuously monitor issues.

You protect your child from car accidents with seat belts… protect them from drowning by teaching them how to swim… and now you protected your child from all vaccine-preventable diseases.

**Vaccination against infectious diseases remains one of the most successful health interventions in the past 100 years.** Countless lives have been saved as a result of vaccines.

Despite that, more than 3 million people die from vaccine-preventable diseases each year. Approximately 1.5 million of these deaths are in children less than five years old. In 2014, Ohio experienced the largest outbreak of the measles in the U.S. in 20 years.

The Ohio AAP and our member pediatricians understand that parents may have concerns about vaccinating their children. We support ongoing research and increased funding in that area.

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Ohio has a new immunization mandate that takes effect in the 2016-2017 school year. Incoming 7th and 12th graders are required to be immunized against meningococcal disease. Check with your doctor if your son or daughter needs this important immunization!