



Kapa'a Pediatrics LLC

Kapa'a Pediatrics' View on Vaccinations

Vaccinations are one of the most important services we can provide for our patients! Here's why...

Vaccines prevent serious illness and save lives

- Vaccines have decreased the number of many deadly diseases
- Vaccines work so well that many parents have never even seen any of these diseases

Vaccine-preventable diseases ARE still around today, right here in America!

- In January 2008 a 7 year old boy from California returned home from Switzerland where he got the measles virus. In California, he gave measles to 11 additional children, ALL were unvaccinated. While infectious, one of these children traveled to HAWAII!!! Luckily this child did not spread measles to anyone in Hawaii.
- Vaccine-preventable diseases are still common in many other parts of the world.

Vaccines make our community, country, and world a safer place for our children

- All vaccine-preventable diseases are spread from human to human
- Children who cannot get vaccinated because of medical conditions benefit from "Herd Immunity:" protection from diseases because the majority of people around them are vaccinated
- No vaccine is 100% effective and so it is dangerous for everyone as the percentage of unvaccinated people increase

Vaccines protect pregnant women and their fetus from diseases

- If a mother gets rubella or chickenpox while pregnant, this vaccine-preventable disease can be devastating or deadly to a fetus or newborn baby

Vaccines use the natural ability of the body's immune system

- Parts of the bacteria or virus are used to mount a response from the immune system
- These parts are called antigens and the immune system builds an army against these antigens so that if it ever sees the same antigen (from the real bacteria or virus) in the future it will be ready to protect the body

On top of all these benefits, vaccines are incredibly safe

- Every physician is MANDATED to report adverse effects of vaccines
- When an adverse effect is suspected, immediate action is taken, whether it be recalling a batch of vaccines or doing further research
- Anaphylactic reactions are EXTREMELY rare and can be treated
- Most serious reactions are less than 1 per million and may not be due to the vaccine

*** Patient handouts created by Kapa'a Pediatrics are intended to give parents the most common and pertinent facts about a certain issue. If there is ever any concern that your child was given an incorrect diagnosis or is not following the usual expected course for an illness please call us to speak with a physician. (808) 634-8011***