



July 1, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

For over 50 years now, the staff and providers at Sewickley Valley Pediatrics have prided ourselves in delivering the best possible medical care for your child(ren) in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and best practice guidelines. As such, after much discussion and in accordance with new Pennsylvania state vaccination laws, **effective August 1, 2017** Sewickley Valley Pediatrics has opted to no longer accept or retain unvaccinated/under-vaccinated children in the practice. What does this mean for you?

- All newborns will be vaccinated per AAP and ACIP guidelines and schedules.
- All incoming new patients who are unvaccinated/under-vaccinated (excluding medical exemptions) will initiate and/or complete all **school required** immunizations as soon as possible per AAP/ACIP catch-up schedules and guidelines.
- All pre-existing patients who are unvaccinated/under-vaccinated (excluding medical exemptions) will initiate and/or complete all **school required** immunizations as soon as possible per AAP/ACIP catch-up schedules and guidelines.
- All the above unvaccinated/under-vaccinated children will be provided an approved catch-up schedule. **Failure to comply with this schedule will result in dismissal from the practice.**
- No "alternative" schedules, other than the AAP/ACIP approved catch-up schedules, will be accepted.
- Medical exemptions will be determined by SVPAM providers.
- Currently, required vaccines do not include HPV, Hepatitis A, Trumenba or Flu vaccine. SVPAM will **NOT** dismiss if there is refusal or delay of these optional vaccines, although we STRONGLY encourage them.

Sewickley Valley Pediatrics respects your right as a parent/guardian to make appropriate medical decisions regarding your child(ren). However, as medical providers, we are responsible and obligated to safeguard the health of all people, including infants/toddlers too young to be fully immunized, medically fragile children who are unable to be vaccinated, our staff, and all other visitors to our office space who may have their own health issues. We appreciate your understanding with regards to our decision. We are more than willing to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely yours,

Sewickley Valley Pediatric Providers

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