



HOT SPRINGS HEALTH PROGRAM

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Approved: _____

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Chairman, HSHP Board of Directors

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HSHP Executive Director

Effective Date: 1-19-2015

Hot Springs Health Program Vaccine Policy Statement

Hot Springs Health Program (HSHP) is committed to providing the highest standard of care for the people of Madison County and surrounding area. The HSHP Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants believe vaccinating children is the most important step in preventing infectious diseases. In order to do this effectively, your healthcare provider will review your child's immunization record at each office visit and may recommend overdue vaccines.

- We firmly believe all children should be vaccinated as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) originating from the Center for Disease Control and endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and American Academy of Family Physicians.
- We believe in the effectiveness of vaccines to prevent serious illness and to save lives. Vaccines are the single most important defense in protecting children and our community from infectious diseases.
- We believe vaccines are held to the highest standard of safety. Years of testing are required by law before vaccines can be licensed. Once in use, vaccines are continuously monitored for safety. We know vaccines do not cause autism or other developmental disabilities based on repeated studies.
- We believe children should receive all of the recommended vaccines according to the ACIP schedule. Delaying or altering the schedule goes against expert recommendations, and can put your child at risk for serious illness, or even death, and goes against our medical advice as providers at Hot Springs Health Program.
- We believe all children should receive vaccines according to the NC Immunization Laws. We believe the public health law excluding un-vaccinated children from school is appropriate. It is also medically appropriate to exclude un-vaccinated children from a medical practice to protect other patients who are vulnerable to communicable infectious diseases.
- Should you choose to withhold vaccinations from your child, you will need to find a different practice.
- We are committed to supporting families with information and references regarding childhood vaccines. As your child's advocate we will work diligently to keep your child healthy and free from communicable diseases.

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66 NW US 25/70 Highway
Hot Springs, NC 28743
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Laurel
Medical Center
80 Guntertown Road
Marshall, NC 28753
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Mashburn
Medical Center
590 Medical Park Drive
Marshall, NC 28753
(828) 649-3500
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Mars Hill
Medical Center
119 Mountain View Road
Mars Hill, NC 28754
(828) 689-3507
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590 Medical Park Drive
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