

ARE VACCINATIONS SAFE?

We at Northwest Primary Care strongly believe that immunizing your child is the best health choice for your child, your family and our community. We would like to offer a summary of statements and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov).

VACCINES ARE IMPORTANT FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF CHILDREN

“While the U.S. currently has record, or near record, low cases of vaccine-preventable diseases, the viruses and bacteria that cause them still exist. Even diseases that have been eliminated in this country, such as polio, are only a plane ride away. Polio, and other infectious diseases, can be passed on to people who are not protected by vaccines.

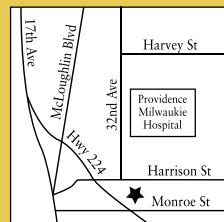
“Vaccine-preventable diseases have a costly impact, resulting in doctor’s visits, hospitalizations, and premature deaths. Sick children can also cause parents to lose time from work.

“If a child is not vaccinated and is exposed to a disease germ, the child’s body may not be strong enough to fight the disease. Before vaccines, many children died from diseases that vaccines now prevent, such as whooping cough, measles, and polio. Those same germs exist today, but babies are now protected by vaccines, so we do not see these diseases as often.”

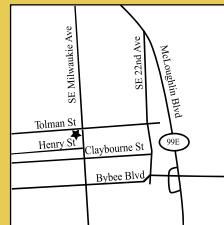
LOCATIONS

WHY VACCINATE ?

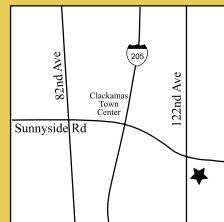
NORTHWEST PRIMARY CARE LOCATIONS



MILWAUKIE
FAMILY PRACTICE
3033 SE Monroe St.
Milwaukie, OR 97222

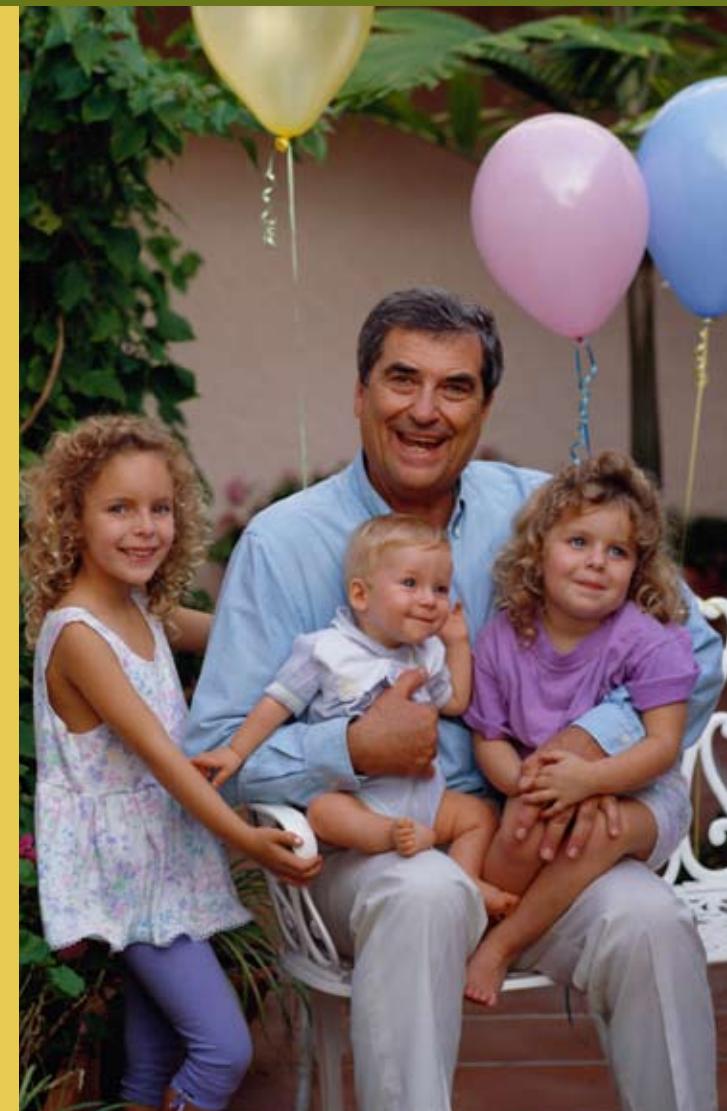


SELLWOOD/
MORELAND CLINIC
6327 SE Milwaukie Ave.
Portland, OR 97202



TALBERT CENTER
FAMILY PRACTICE
12360 SE Sunnyside Rd.
Clackamas, OR 97015

For appointments and assistance, call
503.659.4988.
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WHY VACCINATE ?

VACCINES PREVENT DISEASES THAT CAN CAUSE SERIOUS ILLNESS AND DEATH

“Vaccines prevent disease in the people who receive them and protect those who come into contact with unvaccinated individuals. Vaccines help prevent infectious diseases and save lives. Vaccines are responsible for the control of many infectious diseases that were once common in this country, including polio, measles, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), rubella (German measles), mumps, tetanus, and Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib).”

VACCINES HELP PROTECT THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY

“Immunizing individual children also helps to protect the health of our community, especially those people who are not immunized. People who are not immunized include those who are too young to be vaccinated (e.g., children less than a year old cannot receive the measles vaccine but can be infected by the measles virus), those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons (e.g., children with leukemia), and those who cannot make an adequate response to vaccination. Also protected, therefore, are people who received a vaccine, but who have not developed immunity. In addition, people who are sick will be less likely to be exposed to disease germs that can be passed around by unvaccinated children.

Immunization also slows down or stops disease outbreaks.”

IS THERE A LINK BETWEEN VACCINES AND AUTISM?

There has been a lot of publicity in the media about links between autism and vaccinations. Here is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention statement on this topic:

“As the country’s leading public health agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is committed to protecting the health of all Americans—including infants, children, and adolescents. The CDC shares with parents and many others great concern about the number of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). We are committed to understanding what causes autism, how it can be prevented, and how it can be recognized and treated as early as possible.”

Recent estimates from the CDC’s Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network found that about 1 in 150 children have an ASD. This estimate is higher than estimates from the early 1990s. Some people believe increased exposure to thimerosal (from the addition of important new vaccines

recommended for children) explains the higher prevalence in recent years. However, evidence from several studies examining trends in vaccine use and changes in autism frequency does not support such an association.

FURTHERMORE, A SCIENTIFIC REVIEW BY THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (IOM) CONCLUDED THAT “THE EVIDENCE FAVORS REJECTION OF A CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THIMEROSAL-CONTAINING VACCINES AND AUTISM.” THE CDC SUPPORTS THE IOM CONCLUSION.

The CDC recognizes that autism is an urgent health concern and supports comprehensive research as our best hope for understanding the causes of autism and other developmental disorders. Through collaborations with partners in government, research centers, and the public, the CDC is focusing on three areas:

1. Understanding the frequency and trends of autism spectrum disorders.
2. Advancing research in the search for causes and effective treatments.
3. Improving early detection and diagnosis so affected children are treated as soon as possible.

Please feel free to discuss any vaccine concerns you may have with your Primary Health Care Practitioner.

