

IMPORTANT FLU VACCINE INFORMATION

It's that time of year again!! As summer winds down, the days shorten, the mornings become crisp, the kids head back to school, and the staff at Stapleton Pediatrics prepares for yet another busy winter season. As always, our main goal is to keep your kids happy and healthy; and as we do every year to help accomplish this goal, we recommend that your children (6 months and older), you and primary caretakers all get an annual flu vaccine. **Once again, Stapleton Pediatrics will be providing flu vaccine for kids, parents and caretakers for the 2017-2018 flu season.**

FLU MIST NOT RECOMMENDED FOR 2017-2018 FLU SEASON

Flu mist will not be available at Stapleton Pediatrics again this year. **The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) DO NOT RECOMMEND USING FLU MIST IN ANY AGE GROUP!** This decision is based on data from the U.S. Flu Vaccine Effectiveness Network documenting poor Flu Mist vaccine effectiveness during each of the past three flu seasons. The CDC as well as the AAP still recommends only giving flu shots for the best flu protection during the 2017-2018 flu season.

"THE GOAL"

The staff at Stapleton Pediatrics understands the anxiety that some children feel in receiving a shot. However, knowing that the CDC and the AAP simply want to protect us all from the flu, which is exactly our goal at Stapleton Pediatrics, we too agreed with their recommendation and therefore will only be providing the flu shot for kids, parents and caretakers this season. Although the flu can be inconvenient at best, at worst it can cause hospitalization and even death; therefore, we only want to provide the most effective protection against the flu, and this season that means giving the flu shot.

"THE HOW & WHEN"

Our flu vaccine is starting to arrive and in addition to being able to receive a flu vaccine during an annual check-up, we are planning to provide multiple dates and times to make getting your flu vaccine as easy and convenient as possible. Once again this year we will be offering a choice of Walk-In Flu Clinics and Pre-Booked Flu Vaccine Appointments. Please see the September and October list below of these available dates and times. Once more flu vaccine arrives, we will send out another notice announcing dates and times for November and beyond to help you plan ahead for this year's flu season.

PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

All Stapleton Pediatrics patients will have their flu vaccine billed to their insurance. We can also bill insurance for most parents. If we are unable to bill insurance for parents, you can pay for your flu vaccine which will cost \$39 this year. Caregivers and nannies can also get their flu shot at Stapleton Pediatrics at a cost of \$39.

Stapleton Pediatrics Saturday Walk-In Flu Clinics

No Appointment Necessary

Dates: September 9, 16, 30

October 14, 21

Times: 8:30am to 12:30pm

Weekday Flu Clinics

By appointment only, please call to schedule.