

Need Help Responding to Vaccine-Hesitant Parents?

Science-based materials are available from these reputable organizations

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

- AAP's website to help parents and caregivers who have vaccination questions (see www.healthychildren.org/english/safety-prevention/immunizations/pages/default.aspx)
- When parents cannot be convinced, consider using AAP's "Refusal to Vaccinate" form at https://downloads.aap.org/aap/pdf/rti_form.pdf. Translations are available at www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations/implementing-immunization-administration-in-your-practice/refusal-to-vaccinate/
- "Talking with Vaccine Hesitant Parents" (see www.aap.org/en/patient-care/immunizations/communicating-with-families-and-promoting-vaccine-confidence/talking-with-vaccine-hesitant-parents/)

California Department of Public Health

The Immunization Branch of the California Department of Public Health has developed several excellent provider pieces that discuss common vaccination questions from parents. These include

- Vaccine Safety "Answers to Parents' Top Questions" at www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Answers-to-Parents-Top-Questions.aspx

Immunize.org

Immunize.org's "Vaccine Confidence & Addressing Concerns" web section provides healthcare professionals with top vaccination resources from trusted sources such as CDC, AAP, Immunize.org, VEC, and many more. Visit www.immunize.org/clinical/vaccine-confidence/.

Refer parents to Immunize.org's website for the public at www.vaccineinformation.org. This site includes information about vaccines for people of all ages, including travel vaccines.

Refer parents to www.letsgetrealaboutvaccines.org for online and printable resources about childhood vaccines. This website and its resources are also available in Spanish.

Immunize.org offers several patient handouts for vaccine-hesitant parents. These include:

- "Clear Answers and Smart Advice About Your Baby's Shots," an excerpt from the popular book "Baby 411" by Dr. Ari Brown (see www.immunize.org/catg.d/p2068.pdf)
- "Record of Vaccine Declination" (see www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4059.pdf) Also available in Spanish at www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p4059-spa.pdf
- The "Improving the Vaccination Experience" webpage includes several resources to help families and staff reduce anxiety and pain-related hesitancy (see www.immunize.org/clinical/vaccine-confidence/topic/improving-vaccine-experience/)
- "Reliable Sources of Immunization Information: Where Parents Can Go to Find Answers!" at www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4012.pdf
- "Vaccines Work!" at www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4037.pdf

Institute for Vaccine Safety, Johns Hopkins University

The Institute for Vaccine Safety (see www.vaccinesafety.edu) summarizes vaccine-specific safety information. Of particular interest is its "Components of Vaccines" section, which contains tables specifying the contents of various vaccines (see www.vaccinesafety.edu/components).

Vaccinate Your Family

Vaccinate Your Family (see www.vaccinateyourfamily.org) answers commonly asked questions about vaccines. This website is family-friendly and has many resources in Spanish.

Vaccine Education Center (VEC) Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

VEC (see www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center) offers a wide array of science-based resources.

See a useful list of VEC resources at www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/resources. Find videos and playlists at www.youtube.com/@VaccineEducationCenter

VEC's "Vaccine Safety" web page covers many timely topics (see www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/vaccine-safety) and includes downloadable materials on important safety issues, such as "Are Vaccines Safe?" "Vaccine Ingredients," "Dosing Safety," "Immune System and Health," and more.

For parents with concerns about vaccines and autism

There is clear and definitive evidence that vaccines do not cause autism. Here are some useful resources.

- AAP "Autism Toolkit" at https://doi.org/10.1542/peo_document599
- Autism Science Foundation "Autism and Vaccines" at <https://autismsciencefoundation.org/autism-and-vaccines/>
- Autism Society, Vaccinate Your Family, Immunize.org "The Facts About Autism & Vaccines" at https://autismsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/AutismSociety_Infographic-Autism-and-Vaccines-FAQ_2025-09V1F_Digital.pdf
- Autism Society "Vaccine Education Initiative" Vaccine Education Initiative" at <https://autismsociety.org/vei/>
- *Autism's False Prophets: Bad Science, Risky Medicine, and the Search for a Cure*, by Paul A. Offit, MD, at your local bookstore
- Immunize.org's "MMR Vaccine Does Not Cause Autism: Examine the Evidence!" at www.immunize.org/catg.d/p4026.pdf
- VEC: "Vaccines and Autism: What you should know" <https://media.chop.edu/data/files/pdfs/vaccine-education-center-autism.pdf>

