



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 12, 2026

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Michigan for Vaccines responds to federal executive order on childhood vaccines

LANSING, Mich. – The following statement can be attributed to Michigan for Vaccines, a coalition of more than 20 public health agencies, healthcare providers, community organizations, and advocacy partners, in response to the executive order on childhood vaccine recommendations signed Aug. 10 by President Donald Trump:

“Michigan for Vaccines is deeply concerned by the executive order on childhood vaccine recommendations signed Aug. 10. It departs from the transparent, evidence-based review process that has guided the childhood immunization schedule for decades, and, [as the American Academy of Pediatrics said this week](#), there is no new evidence to justify significant changes to childhood immunization guidance.

“What matters most for Michigan families right now is this: nothing has changed about what your doctor recommends. Michigan Chief Medical Executive Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian has issued a [Standing Recommendation](#) directing clinicians and families to follow the child and adolescent immunization schedule produced by the American Academy of Pediatrics ([Child & Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#)) or the American Academy of Family Physicians. Michigan’s [immunization recommendations](#) also point providers to the AAFP [Adult Immunization Schedule](#) and the ACOG [Maternal Immunization Schedule](#). That standing recommendation is in place today, and under it the vaccines removed from the federal routine schedule — including rotavirus, meningococcal, hepatitis A and B, influenza, COVID-19 and RSV — are still recommended for all children by state health experts and the nation’s leading medical organizations.

“These schedules remain the trusted, science-based standard for protecting children against vaccine-preventable diseases, and Michigan’s physicians, nurses, pharmacists, health systems, health plans and local health departments are united behind them. Families with questions should talk with their pediatrician or family physician, who remains the most reliable source of guidance about their child’s health.”

"Following the AAP-recommended immunization schedule protects infants and children by building immunity early in life, before they encounter diseases that can make them seriously ill. The schedule is built around timing — children are vaccinated at the ages when their immune systems respond best and when their risk of serious illness is highest. As a hospitalist, I care for children at every stage of illness, and my goal is to make sure families and communities have guidance they can trust, backed by science. Our country is recording more measles cases than it has in 35 years, and that is concerning at a moment when messages from federal leaders seem to sow doubt about sound medical guidance. Michigan pediatricians will keep following the AAP schedule, and because of Michigan's standing recommendation, families should not see a change in their

pediatrician's office," said Dr. Joseph Fakhoury, president of the Michigan Chapter of the AAP and a pediatric hospitalist at Bronson Children's Hospital.

"There is no evidence that delaying or spreading out vaccines is any safer than simply following the American Academy of Pediatrics recommended schedule. The timing of every vaccine has been carefully tested, studied and reviewed before it is recommended for children. When shots are spread out or left out, children spend more months unprotected, families make more trips to the doctor's office, kids face more stress and anticipation of shots, and costs go up. Parents deserve guidance grounded in that evidence, and in Michigan, that is exactly what our state's standing recommendation delivers," said Dr. Lauren Azevedo, president-elect of the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a pediatrician at MSU Pediatrics.

Michigan for Vaccines is a coalition of more than 20 public health agencies, healthcare providers, community organizations and advocacy partners formed in response to growing threats to vaccine access and the spread of vaccine misinformation. Its members include Michigan's leading medical, provider and public health organizations: the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians, Michigan Association of Health Plans, Michigan Association for Local Public Health, Michigan Association of Preventive Medicine and Public Health Physicians, Michigan Association of School Nurses, Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Michigan Health & Hospital Association, Michigan Osteopathic Association, Michigan Pharmacists Association, Michigan Primary Care Association, Michigan Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Michigan State Medical Society. Together, the coalition remains dedicated to protecting and strengthening vaccine policy, because everyone deserves access to lifesaving vaccines and accurate, science-based information.

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