

SPN Position Statement Importance of immunization

All SPN Position statements are valid for two years after approval date. Approved by SPN Board of Directors on January 25, 2021. Updated March 4, 2021, January 19, 2023, August 4, 2025

Author: SPN Healthcare Policy and Advocacy Committee

Immunizations are a safe and effective intervention for the prevention of communicable diseases. Vaccine-preventable diseases can have devastating impacts on the health and well-being of children and youth, and vaccines therefore serve as one of the most important public health strategies to combat these diseases and promote the health of our society. Pediatric nurses play a critical role in ensuring that all eligible children receive recommended vaccinations on schedule, thus protecting the individual patient and also ensuring the maintenance of herd immunity to protect those ineligible or too young for vaccination. The Society of Pediatric Nurses (SPN) calls on all pediatric nurses to help combat vaccine misinformation by providing current, evidence-based education from reputable sources to patients and families who are considering vaccination or who are vaccine hesitant. SPN further encourages pediatric nurses to advocate for evidence-and expert-informed decision making by government officials about vaccines.

Here are key resources that provide accurate information regarding vaccinations.

- World Health Organization Vaccines and Immunization
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Immunization Schedules
- · Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccines Recommendations

REFERENCES

National Association of School Nurses. (2025). Position statement: Immunization and vaccination requirements. *The Journal of School Nursing*, *41*(4),16-518. doi:10.1177/10598405251332809

American Nurses Association, Nursing Practice & Work Environment Department, Pochop, S. G. Jr., Godfrey, N., Smith, S., Wolfe, I., & Cruz-Maxwell, E. (2023). Position statement: Immunizations. final-immunizations-position-statement-nov-2021updated050923.pdf

Original Author: Kathy Van Allen, MSN, RN, CPN