

Survey finds ⅓ parents nervous to take kids to pediatrician's office for routine visits like vaccinations

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<p>SUGGESTED TEASE</p>	<p>AS KIDS RETURN TO SCHOOL, EXPERTS WARN THAT COVID-19 ISN'T THE ONLY ILLNESS TO WORRY ABOUT.</p> <p>DETAILS ON HOW LOW VACCINATION RATES COULD POSE A NEW THREAT, COMING UP.</p>
<p>ANCHOR LEAD</p>	<p>IT'S ABOUT THAT TIME TO GET YOUR ANNUAL FLU SHOT, AND THIS YEAR EXPERTS SAY IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO GET YOUR FAMILY VACCINATED.</p> <p>BUT IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE FLU. WITH COVID-19 MAKING MANY PARENTS HESITANT TO TAKE THEIR CHILDREN FOR THEIR ROUTINE WELLNESS VISITS, EXPERTS WARN THAT A DROP IN VACCINATION RATES COULD BE A RECIPE FOR DISASTER AS KIDS RETURN TO SCHOOLS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES.</p> <p>BARB CONSIGLIO HAS THE DETAILS ON A NEW SURVEY HIGHLIGHTING PARENTS' CONCERNS AND RESERVATIONS REGARDING VACCINES.</p>
<p>(PACKAGE START) ----- CG: Courtesy: Orlando Health :00 - :03</p> <p>Shots of AJ and Cynthia prepping for school</p> <p>CG: Cynthia Velasco Mom</p> <p>Shots of AJ and Cynthia leaving for school</p> <p>Shots of patient and parent</p>	<p>(Nats - Sound) :02</p> <p>A-J VELASCO (vel-AH-sco) IS EXCITED TO START KINDERGARTEN, BUT HIS PARENTS WORRY AS THE COVID-19 THREAT CONTINUES. :05</p> <p><i>"I do think that they're going to be doing their best to keep the classrooms clean, sanitized, students wearing their masks."</i> :06</p> <p>IT'S NOT JUST COVID PARENTS HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT, BUT OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES AS WELL.</p> <p>VACCINATION RATES HAVE PLUMMETED SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN, WHICH EXPERTS SAY COULD LEAD TO THE NEXT PANDEMIC OF DANGEROUS AND PREVENTABLE CHILDHOOD</p>

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<p>CG: Alix Casler, MD Pediatrician</p> <p>Shot of Dr. and patient (blur for graphic) Graphic: Vaccinations Survey 84% - vaccinations are best way to prevent diseases 67% - Nervous to visit pediatrician's office</p> <p>Shots of Dr. Casler with patient</p> <p>Dr. Casler(CG'd earlier)</p> <p>Shots of Dr. Casler in exam room with patient</p> <p>Shots of child getting vaccine</p> <p>Graphic: Vaccines survey 38% - believe their child does not need all vaccinations</p> <p>Dr. Casler (CG'd earlier)</p> <p>Shots of AJ and Cynthia preparing for school</p> <p>Cynthia Velasco (CG'd earlier)</p> <p>Shots of AJ and Cynthia playing</p>	<p>DISEASES. :12</p> <p><i>"All it will take is a case of measles entering our community and we will see loss of life that is completely and totally unnecessary." :11</i></p> <p>A NEW NATIONAL SURVEY BY ORLANDO HEALTH FOUND THAT WHILE THE VAST MAJORITY OF PARENTS BELIEVE VACCINES ARE THE BEST WAY TO PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ABOUT TWO-THIRDS ARE STILL FEARFUL OF TAKING THEIR KIDS TO THEIR PEDIATRICIAN'S OFFICE BECAUSE OF COVID-19.</p> <p>DOCTOR ALIX CASLER SAYS, LIKE MOST PEDIATRICIANS, SHE IS DOING EVERYTHING SHE CAN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF HER PATIENTS AND GET THEM IN THE DOOR TO GET CAUGHT UP ON THEIR VACCINATION SCHEDULE. :20</p> <p><i>"We don't have any crowding in the halls, there's one family at a time, no one sits in the waiting room anymore." :07</i></p> <p>DOCTOR CASLER IS CONTACTING FAMILIES DIRECTLY TO HELP THEM OVERCOME BARRIERS TO THEIR WELLNESS CHECKUPS, WHETHER THAT'S NERVOUSNESS ABOUT COVID-19 OR LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT OR INSURANCE. :08</p> <p>(Nats - patient getting vaccine) :01</p> <p>THE SURVEY ALSO FOUND THAT SKEPTICISM ABOUT VACCINES IS STILL A MAJOR ISSUE, WITH THIRTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF PARENTS RESPONDING THAT THEY DON'T BELIEVE THEIR CHILD NEEDS ALL THE RECOMMENDED VACCINES. :09</p> <p><i>"Unless you've seen the diseases that we're preventing, you cannot grasp the magnitude of benefit that comes from universal vaccination." :14</i></p> <p>AS FOR A-J, HE'S LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS FIRST DAY IN HIS NEW SCHOOL, AND HIS PARENTS ARE READY WITH HIS IMMUNIZATION RECORDS AND ANY OTHER NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS. :08</p> <p><i>"Not only are we protecting our son, but we're doing our best to protect others in his school and in our community at large." :05</i></p> <p>AT ORLANDO HEALTH, THIS IS BARB CONSIGLIO</p>
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<p>CG: Alix Casler, MD Pediatrician</p>	<p>Casler says vaccination rates are down due to lack of access: <i>“Overall childhood vaccine rates are down to potentially dangerous levels, probably because of access issues, parents being either unable or fearful of accessing medical care and preventative vaccinations for their children.”</i></p> <p>Casler says the flu shot will prevent adding another dangerous illness on top of the current threat: <i>“The fact is that we have a safe and effective method to reduce the impact of influenza through a vaccine, so we’re hoping that people will be literally just volunteering to get that vaccine so we can at least take something off of the table in terms of very serious illness.”</i></p>
<p>CG: Cynthia Velasco Mom</p>	<p>Cynthia says she’s concerned about other illnesses at school in addition to COVID: <i>“Obviously COVID is a threat but I do have concerns around flu season, around any of those illnesses that children can be more susceptible to once they’re in a classroom setting, just simply based on the fact that they are giving each other high fives or hugs if they get excited about something or they’re happy to see each other.”</i></p> <p>Cynthia worries that her son’s immune system is untested : <i>“His immune system hasn’t been tested in the way that it would have been if he was in school this past spring and in school more frequently like he would have been in the summer. That is a concern that I have because I do think that once they go back to school he is more susceptible for those regular illnesses that we see that happen during the school year.”</i></p> <p>Cynthia says her pediatrician’s office has been very helpful: <i>“They’ve been really helpful along the way to make sure that we have the proper records, but then also reminding us that when it comes time for his wellness visit that they would like to see him. They would definitely, especially if he’s going back to school, would like to see him ASAP.”</i></p>

References

¹Summary of the 2017-2018 Influenza Season. **Center for Disease Control and Prevention, August 31, 2018.** Online: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2017-2018.htm>

²Recommendations for Prevention and Control of Influenza in Children, 2018–2019. **American Academy of Pediatrics, September 2018.** Online: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2018/08/30/peds.2018-2367>

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