



Atlanta Children's Clinical Center, P.C.

November 10, 2023

To the patients and families of ACCC:

The holiday gatherings are quickly approaching! We want to remind all families that the best way to protect vulnerable family members from illness is **vaccination**. We have flu shots for all our patients 6 mos of age and older and flumist for healthy children ages 4 and up. We are also offering flu vaccines to parents. Flu vaccines can be given after school or on Saturdays with a nurse visit. They can also be given with other routine vaccines at the checkup.

We also have the updated **2023-2024 covid vaccines**. The CDC recommends everyone 6 mos of age and older receive the new updated covid vaccine targeting circulating Omicron variants. If your child previously had covid or a vaccine, they are still eligible to receive this new vaccine provided it has been at least 2 months since illness or previous vaccination. Please call the office to schedule.

Many parents have also asked about the new RSV immunization, nirsevimab or Beyfortus. There have been supply shortages of this monoclonal antibody treatment to prevent hospitalization from RSV. If supply is available as the respiratory season progresses, we will let you know. There is also a maternal RSV vaccine that is indicated during pregnancy that does not seem to be in short supply so if you are expecting, please check with your OB about getting this vaccine that will protect your newborn as well.

Unfortunately, there have been some pediatric recalls in the headlines lately. Tyson recently recalled 30,000 pounds of dinosaur shaped chicken nuggets after consumers found small metal pieces in them. <https://www.npr.org/2023/11/05/1210812866/chicken-nuggets-recall-tyson>. There was also a recent fruit pouch recall due to concerns about lead: <https://www.cnn.com/2023/11/06/health/applesauce-pouch-recall-lead-fda-wellness/index.html>. Finally, a recall of dog and cat food due to infants being infected with salmonella: <https://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/kiambu-11-23/index.html>

Dr. Chugani has been in the news recently, discussing the importance of flu and covid vaccines. There was an interview with the AJC:

<https://www.ajc.com/news/health-news/rise-in-rsv-virus-that-sickens-babies-fills-atlanta-hospital-beds/USMBHPZSVVBEXKJJASB5JJWTQU/>

and a video piece on 11Alive News:

<https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/doctors-warn-dangerous-combo-covid-flu-rsv/85-fd4e35ab-85b2-4b72-8d07-ccdf4bcc73e6>

We also have a new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AtlantaChildrensClinicalCenter/>

Thank you for entrusting us with the care of your most prized possession—your children. We appreciate your referrals of new families to our practice!

Drs. Maxey, Chugani, & Ference