

Alabama



Tim Stewart, MD

Pediatrician

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Huntsville, AL

In Huntsville, Alabama, it is no secret that Dr. Tim Stewart is continuously seeking new ways to increase area immunization rates—both through immunization strategies within his practice at Huntsville Pediatric Associates and through advocacy and education among his peers.

In response to a high percentage of pertussis cases in Alabama among people 18 years of age and older, Dr. Stewart began using the Tdap vaccine to vaccinate parents, grandparents, and other caregivers in an effort to stop the spread of pertussis to infants and children in the household. Additionally, he encourages annual influenza vaccinations for all of his patients.

Dr. Stewart also educates his colleagues about the importance and benefits of immunization. He currently serves as the area representative to the Executive Board for the Alabama Chapter of the AAP. In this capacity his focus is on advocating for following the recommended schedule for infants and adolescents and encouraging physicians throughout Alabama to increase adolescent coverage rates by simultaneously vaccinating with Tdap, meningococcal, and HPV vaccines. He also advises physicians in private practice on immunization recommendations through American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)-sponsored webinars. Additionally, Dr. Stewart has served on a panel at the Alabama Chapter-AAP Immunization Financing Congress, which draws together pediatricians, state public health leaders, and national leaders of pediatric policy to address the challenges of state-level financing, vaccine awareness, and improving vaccination rates for children in Alabama.

For his expertise and action-oriented work ethic, Dr. Stewart is a *CDC Childhood Immunization Champion*.