

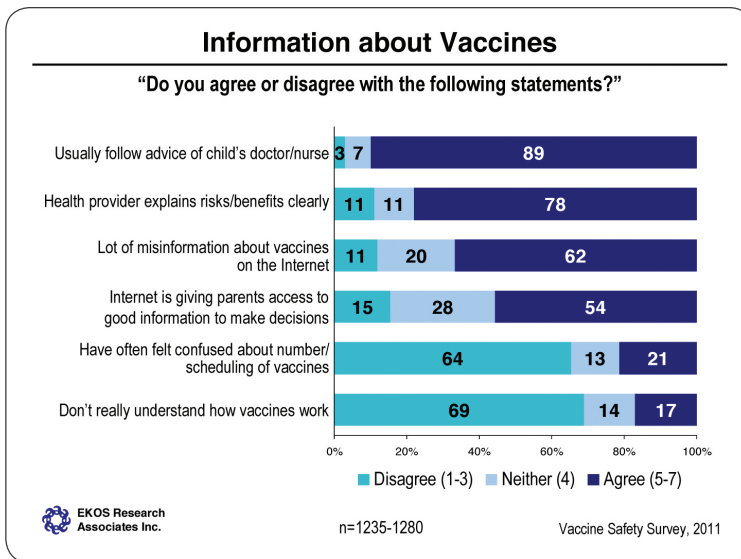


## BEST PRACTICES IN (NPF) IMMUNIZATIONS

There are at least two important reasons to talk to parents about vaccines (both publicly and non-publicly funded):

1. As a physician you are the leading reason why parents accept vaccines for themselves and their children.<sup>2</sup> As you will see from the graph below, parents usually follow the advice of the physician/nurse when making a decision to immunize (although a small majority believe the internet is also a good place to get advice and information).

**“Research has shown that a health care provider’s advice has a major influence on parental decision-making.”<sup>1</sup>**



2. Additionally, the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) advises that physicians should be prepared to let patients and families know how they can protect themselves and their families from vaccine-preventable diseases.<sup>3</sup>

- By informing parents about all the vaccine options, you have fulfilled your obligations as defined by the Canadian Medical Protective Association.
- If an indication applies, Health Authorities provide the vaccine at no cost. You can facilitate this process by sending the family to the Health Unit where staff will assess eligibility.

**One of the most important questions on a parent’s mind about vaccines is:**

**“What is YOUR recommendation as a health care provider?”**

<sup>1</sup> MacDonalld NE, Finlay J. Working with vaccine-hesitant parents. *Paediatr Child Health* 2013;18 (5):265-7. Retrieved September 10, 2013 from: [www.cps.ca/en/documents/position/working-with-vaccine-hesitant-parents](http://www.cps.ca/en/documents/position/working-with-vaccine-hesitant-parents)

<sup>2</sup> EKOS Research Associates Inc. for PHAC. Survey of Parents on Key Issues Related to Immunization; 2011. Retrieved November 19, 2014 from: <http://resources.cpha.ca/immunize.ca/data/1792e.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> The Canadian Medical Protective Association, New vaccines — What are your obligations? Retrieved February 1, 2014 from: [https://opllfrpd5.cmpa-acpm.ca/en/safety/-/asset\\_publisher/N6oEDMrzRbCC/content/new-vaccines-what-are-your-obligations](https://opllfrpd5.cmpa-acpm.ca/en/safety/-/asset_publisher/N6oEDMrzRbCC/content/new-vaccines-what-are-your-obligations)