

PARENT CONSENT FORM**Cost of Administering Childhood Immunizations
On-Site Observation**

The Center for Health Policy Studies (CHPS), a private health care consulting firm located in Columbia, is studying the cost of administering childhood immunizations. The study is sponsored by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), the government agency responsible for Medicare and Medicaid. Once the study determines the range of costs for immunization, the results will be used to set limits on how much physicians may charge under the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program recently enacted by Congress.

CHPS is observing immunizations as they are given to better understand how differences in immunization procedures among practices can lead to differences in cost. National data collection efforts are currently underway. This medical facility has agreed to serve as one of our observation sites. However, parental consent is needed before we can observe the immunization your child is about to receive.

Your child's participation in the test study is completely voluntary and will have no effect on the treatment he or she receives. Any data collected during the observation of your child's immunization will remain completely confidential and neither you or your child will be identified. The observation will be limited to the time required to give the immunization. During that time an observer will simply watch and take notes.

By signing below, you are stating that you have read this document, understand the request that is being made of you, and are willing to allow your child's immunization to be observed for purposes of the study.

Parent's Name

Parent's Signature

Date