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## Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio (AMCNO) Launches [#WhyWeVaccinate](#) Campaign to Combat Vaccine Myths

**(CLEVELAND, OH – Nov. 10) – AMCNO Launches [#WhyWeVaccinate](#) Campaign to Combat Vaccine Myths**

The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio (AMCNO), one of the oldest and largest regional medical societies in the country is launching [#WhyWeVaccinate](#) — a campaign where local physicians are sharing their personal reasons for vaccinating and recommending vaccines to their patients.

The group’s hope is to collect powerful stories, honest perspectives, and science-backed truths to share with the public. **“We want to humanize vaccines and the doctors who support them, because at their core, behind every physician’s recommendation of a medically appropriate vaccine is a real person who believes in protecting life,”** said AMCNO Executive Director Jen Johns, MPH.

AMCNO hopes to use the campaign to build trust in the community while countering the incredible amount of inaccurate vaccine information now available online with real, personal stories.

**“Vaccinations against childhood and adult diseases have been one of the greatest triumphs of medical science, preventing illness and death for millions of children. For children to get sick and possibly die of these preventable infections is a tragedy that we must work to prevent,”** said AMCNO President Eric Shapiro, MD.

AMCNO has a long history of vaccine advocacy and administration, including most notably the [Sabin Oral Sundays](#) program. Over six Sundays in the summer of 1962, more than 1.5 million Clevelanders were vaccinated against polio, making the campaign the most successful in the country at the time.

As part of the [#WhyWeVaccinate](#) campaign, AMCNO is also bringing to the public’s attention the need to continue routine vaccinations this flu season, warning against following the unscientific

advice of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.. Kennedy is a well-known anti-vaccine and anti-science advocate and has touted conspiracy theories and lies about vaccines (including that childhood immunizations cause autism).

The AMCNO strongly encourages the public this flu season to follow the [recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) vaccine schedule](#) for persons under age 18, and the American College of Physicians (ACP) and [American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\) vaccine schedule](#) for persons over the age of 18.

Those interested in participating in the #WhyWeVaccinate campaign can share their stories on the Academy's website, [www.amcno.org](http://www.amcno.org).

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**About ACADEMY OF MEDICINE OF CLEVELAND AND NORTHERN OHIO**

The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio (AMCNO) is a nonprofit 501(c)6 professional organization of over 7,400 physicians and medical students with the mission of supporting physicians in being strong advocates for all patients and promoting the practice of the highest quality of medicine. Founded in 1824, AMCNO has a long history of physician advocacy as the oldest professional organization in Ohio. To learn more, visit [amcno.org](http://amcno.org).