

# Indiana AAP Response to Anti-Vaccine Film



The Indiana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (INAAP) recently learned that the anti-vaccine film, **Vaxxed** was screened in Indiana. This film serves as a forum for its director, the discredited former physician Andrew Wakefield. Wakefield's fraudulent 1998 research paper in the **Lancet** that suggested a link between the measles vaccine and autism has long ago been retracted from the journal that published it and its editor has called the article "utterly false". With this new movie Wakefield continues to attempt to garner public support for his scientifically discredited theories.

After reviewing responses to this movie by other state AAP chapters we have decided to follow a similar approach to our neighboring state, the **Ohio AAP Chapter**. We would like to avoid giving Wakefield and this film the free publicity of media coverage that they surely seek. Therefore the current plan would be to not release a specific media statement per se regarding this unless it is noted that there has been significant local media coverage about the film or the appearance of other published materials containing obvious vaccine misinformation. If those things would occur then the INAAP Chapter would release a targeted response statement as well as make INAAP speakers with scientifically based information on immunizations available to talk to the media.

Here are resources available to share with parents and media:

- [CDC: Vaccines Do Not Cause Autism Information webpage](#)

- **CDC: Understanding MMR Vaccine Safety**
- **CDC: Understanding Thimerosal, Mercury and Vaccine Safety**