



Written by [Paul Dragu](#) on August 12, 2026

## Trump Signs Order to Slash and Space Out Childhood Vaccines — and the Medical Establishment Hates It

Long before he became secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), Robert F. Kennedy Jr. had determined to figure out a way to upend the crowded childhood vaccine schedule and replace it with one based on “gold standard” science. On Monday, President Donald Trump signed an executive order (EO) titled “Delivering gold standard childhood vaccine recommendations for Americans.” Kennedy was right behind him.

The idea is to cut down the number of vaccines from 70-plus “jabs” to “11 core vaccinations,” Trump [said](#) when he signed the order.



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The order also aims to space out the shots, recommending separating the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine into three shots delivered over 18 months. “At one year, you should have five separate visits for vaccines rather than getting them all in the same day,” said Trump. He likened the volume of vaccines children get at the outset of life to that of a soda bottle.

Moreover, Trump’s [order](#) aims to remove the Covid-19, hepatitis B, and influenza vaccines from the list of those recommended for children.

According to the EO, HHS did a study revealing that the U.S. recommends more vaccines than any other peer country, in some cases “more than twice as many.” And while other countries rely on “public trust and education,” American children are coerced into getting vaccines lest they not be allowed in government schools. Therefore, the government should “support maximal parental choice over childhood vaccines,” says the order.

### The Cons

As expected, the opposing camps reacted differently. The Associated Press [cited](#) two opponents, Dr. Andrew Racine, president of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and Senator Bill Cassidy of Louisiana, the Republican chair of the Senate’s committee on health. Racine said:

Science about vaccines and their efficacy has not changed. The distribution of viruses and other pathogens in our environment has not changed. Children in this country have not changed in the last 48 hours.

The American Academy of Pediatrics is one of multiple medical groups that has sued Kennedy to stop an effort from early this year to change the childhood vaccine schedule and limit the Covid shot. A federal judge in Massachusetts sided with the AAP and blocked Kennedy’s rules. Kennedy has appealed the decision, and the case remains in limbo.



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Cassidy's characterization of the EO as the willy-nilly decision of a president who has likely never read a study on vaccines is misleading. As noted above, the decision is backed by research completed by HHS. Also, the suspicion that vaccines are causing problems has been documented by a litany of doctors, experts, and parents over many years.

## The Pros

Dr. Robert Malone is among a number of vaccine experts who applauded the move. Not only is Malone an inventor of the mRNA technology widely used in the Covid-19 injection, but he served a short stint on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) after being hired by Kennedy. He eventually quit [over](#) "hundreds of hours of uncompensated labor, incredible hate from many quarters, hostile press, internal bickering, weaponized leaking, [and] sabotage." He is nonetheless still invested in this issue.

Malone reacted to the EO on his Substack. "Trump just signed an executive order spacing out the childhood vaccine schedule," he [wrote](#). "In my book, it couldn't have happened soon enough."

He said that he's met "countless parents who have children with severe vaccine injuries," adding:

There are so many with children who had swelling on the brain that caused permanent brain damage, others who trace developmental delays to febrile seizures or hypotonic-hyporesponsive episodes after vaccination.

Malone spends a great deal of his Substack relaying metrics for adverse reactions following various vaccines.

Brian Hooker is the chief scientific officer at Children's Health Defense, a health publication founded by Robert F. Kennedy Jr. He believes the order may save lives, [noting](#):

By eliminating the birth Hep B and the new RSV jab from the "recommended" schedule, vaccination is delayed to 2 months of age, rather than the first day of life. Infant deaths in the U.S. peak during the first week of life and anything that can be done to address that will help drive mortality rates lower.

However, Trump's executive order leaves a lot of unanswered questions. Hooker again:

I would have liked to see the actual schedule of these shots addressed as well. Unfortunately, very little impact has been made to the multiplicity of shots children will receive at 2-month, 4-month, 6-month, and 12-month check-ups. These shots have not been tested in combination in controlled trials, so each infant in the U.S. is a science experiment with a sample size of 1.

Pediatrician Dr. Joel Walsh said on his Substack that he too is confused, mostly about how this will play out practically. "I do not understand how this is supposed to work," he wrote. "The childhood vaccine schedule is not ordinarily created because the president sits in the Oval Office and announces how many vaccines children should receive."



## Vaccine Opposition Nothing New

The order calls on states to align their policies with the new recommendations, but it's likely some states will push back with support from organizations like the American Academy of Pediatrics. How that will play out is anybody's guess.

Kennedy has been attributing widespread adverse affects to the vaccine schedule for many years. He said that in 1962, five doses of three vaccines were recommended. By 1989, the schedule had ballooned to 24 doses of 11 vaccines. This happened after Congress passed in 1986 the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act, granting vaccine makers liability immunity for any vaccine recommended by the CDC. The reason for this law? Vaccine manufacturers said they couldn't afford to keep compensating people for the injuries and deaths their products were causing. Today the number of shots has tripled, to include up to 77 doses to combat 18 different diseases.

Some argue that Kennedy is undercounting the number of vaccines children got in the '60s and earlier. Whatever the exact numbers, the fact is that the number of recommended vaccines — and in many cases the amount of compulsion to get them — has increased exponentially. The point of this EO is to reduce both.

The EO calls for the HHS Task Force on Safer Childhood Vaccines to create a report within 90 days on how to implement the new rules. [Kennedy said](#) his agency will not need 90 days to deliver the report:

We will bring you our actions and findings as soon as they are ready. We will not wait for the 90-day period. Within 90 days, as you have directed, we will deliver the full response required by this executive order. ... The task force is already working to expand vaccine options, examine the timing and sequencing of childhood vaccines, strengthen safety monitoring, advance research into alternative adjuvants, and continuously evaluate risks and benefits using American and international evidence. Taken together, this is what "gold standard" science means.

If past is prologue, this order will run into great opposition. The lawsuit that's ensnared Kennedy over a similar agenda is proof that the medical establishment will not stand by while the status quo is threatened.



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