



April 20, 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As we navigate this unprecedented time in health care, RWJBarnabas Health Medical Group thanks you for relying on us to provide care to your child. We are steadfast in our commitment to work with local, state and federal public health officials to ensure the proper protocols are in place to maintain an environment of utmost safety to help slow and stop the spread of COVID-19.

**While we continue to see cases of COVID-19 in our communities, we ask that you please monitor your child for any symptoms of the virus, such as dry cough, sore throat, fever, difficulty breathing, and/or stomach pains and/or diarrhea. If your child experiences any of these symptoms, please contact your child's doctor for support and guidance.**

To help minimize the risk of unnecessary exposure to COVID-19 for you and your family, we are currently making the following changes to our practice operations. It is not necessary to call our office if you already have an appointment scheduled. Our staff will contact you directly.

- **If your child is sick**, please call our office and you will be scheduled for a same-day virtual or in-person visit with one of our providers. Using the system is easy and we will guide you through the process. As always, we are also available for emergency, after-hours concerns.
- Some of our **well visits** will take place via telemedicine.
- Only one parent or guardian will be permitted with a child for any office visit.

*Please note that children and adolescents should continue to receive recommended vaccines. Your provider may find it appropriate to see your child for an in-person visit or vaccination once an initial call is made to the office and/or may decide to change the operations listed above to best meet the needs of you and your child. Please consult directly with your doctor for instructions on newborn visits.*

We recognize that the current situation surrounding COVID-19 can bring about feelings of stress, fear and anxiety. While you should remain vigilant in monitoring any symptoms being experienced by you or your child, please keep in mind that the majority of people who are infected with COVID-19 will experience only mild symptoms and will recover completely.

We wish you and your family good health. We are in this together.

Sincerely,

RWJBarnabas Health Medical Group

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