

URGENT UPDATES REGARDING CORONAVIRUS!

After meeting with several Pediatric physicians and Infectious disease experts in the Birmingham area over the weekend, we have come up with a plan for most of the Pediatric offices in the area, in order to hopefully curb the spread of the COVID 19 (coronavirus) and keep all of us safe. These changes may cause a temporary inconvenience but remember your safety and the safety of your loved ones who may be immunocompromised is at stake. We are following the guidelines given regarding social distancing and recommending that you STAY HOME as much as possible. PLEASE STAY AWAY FROM ELDERLY FAMILY MEMBERS AND ANYONE IMMUNOCOMPROMISED (CANCER PATIENTS, DIABETICS, ASTHMATICS, TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS, ETC)

We cannot have the office crowded at ANY time therefore:

The following protocols are now in place effective IMMEDIATELY!

1. Only 1 well parent and the child being seen will be allowed in the office. PLEASE DO NOT BRING OTHER CHILDREN OR ADULTS AS THEY WILL BE ASKED TO REMAIN IN THE CAR.
2. We have a special room for newborn babies that must be seen. You will come in and be taken immediately to that room.
3. We will only do checkups on children ages 2 and under. This is so that they continue to get their necessary immunizations.
4. Checkups will be done in the mornings only.
5. If your child has been scheduled for a checkup but is starting to show signs of illness OR you (the parent) are ill, please reschedule ASAP.
6. Sick kids will only be seen in the afternoon.
7. All calls for sick appointments will be triaged over the phone and will receive a callback indicating whether they need to come into the office OR follow instructions for at home care given by Dr. Boyd.
8. As things progress, if our office starts to get crowded, you will be asked to wait in your car until your room is available. You will receive a call to tell you to then come in.
9. Please DO NOT go to Urgent Care or the ER for minor illnesses. This is the time to do home care. Save the ER and Urgent Care staff to see children who are having true problems such as difficulty breathing, broken bones and other life-threatening problems.
10. We do NOT have testing for the COVID 19 virus. Testing is very limited. So far, healthy children have NOT been affected greatly. Testing should be reserved for those who are immunocompromised, live with someone immunocompromised or on the verge of hospitalization. EVERYONE else who has fever and cough/cold symptoms but is otherwise well, is asked to remain home and away from others to prevent the spread.

11. Please stock up now on Tylenol, ibuprofen (Motrin), nasal saline, allergy meds--benadryl, Claritin, Zyrtec and cough meds so that you will have what you need to take care of your children at home. Make sure their inhalers are filled and ready along with any other prescription meds that they take.

FINALLY, remember washing your hands, covering your mouth when you cough and staying away from other people is the best way to ward off this illness. At this point the social distancing is highly suggested, however, as the cases continue to rise there may be a true quarantine put in place for us all. Do your part to help us keep your loved ones safe by STAYING AT HOME!!