



Divorced/Separated Families Office Policy

As your child's pediatrician, our goal is to provide the best pediatric care for your child. However, please be aware that our office is not party to your divorce agreement and we cannot and will not be responsible for administering any of its terms.

We will ask that the parent/step-parent bringing the child into the office pay the co-payment, and/or outstanding balance at the time of the visit. Statements go to one parent, usually the one with primary custody. If an account becomes delinquent and goes to collections, the collection agency will pursue both parents.

Both parents have a right to schedule appointments for their child. We will not call the other parent and inform them of said appointment, nor will we call them to advise them of what happened during said appointment.

Please make decisions regarding appointments, vaccinating and/or any office procedures PRIOR to visiting our practice.

If, after speaking with the parent/person who brought the child in for a visit; you still have questions regarding your child's care, we ask that you please call and leave a message. The provider will call you back. As your child's healthcare provider, we will not be used as a vehicle of communication between divorced parents; therefore we need you to communicate regarding your child.

Both parents have equal rights to the child's medical information as long as the parental rights have not been severed. If parental rights have been ended, we will require a copy of the court documentation to that affect. Both the custodial and non-custodial parent has a right to medical information on their child. Note: this parental right is restricted to access of the child's medical information and does not include access to the address, telephone number, or any information regarding the other parent.

If you request copies of all or part of the medical record, a fee is required before the copies will be made.

The best scenario is for parties to communicate openly with one another and actively participate in the healthcare and treatment of the child. This open communication will benefit all parties.

If we feel any of the above points are becoming an issue at the office and/or compromising patient care, we reserve the right to discharge the family from the practice.