



Your Partners in Pediatric & Adolescent Care!

PEDIATRIC PARTNERS, P.A.

CO-PARENTING POLICY

Co-parenting is a reality in our society today. We don't know the circumstances of your parting, nor do we need to know, unless it concerns the health or well-being of our patient, your child.

Our office understands that split parents should have equal access to their child's health record, unless a court order specifies differently. Absent an order of the court to the contrary, we will assume each parent shall have equal access to the health records of the minor child.

It is an excellent idea for parents not in a relationship with each other, who are coming to our office for the first time, to have a copy of the court order relating to custody. That way custody issues can be well defined from the start. Parents should also provide our office with current copies of court orders related to custody with every update. Information regarding your child's custody arrangement should be quickly relayed to the provider, so that your child continues to receive uninterrupted and quality care in the best manner possible.

If joint custody is in effect, either parent may consent for medical care and treatment. Although joint legal custody means that both parents have equal authority to consent, the court may require that both parents agree upon certain or all medical decisions made on behalf of the child.

What to expect from our office:

- Our providers will consider your child's health and well-being their main concern.
- Our office will not be a messenger between you and your co-parent.
- Our providers will provide all of the information regarding the risks, benefits, and alternate options on any treatment in question to the parent or guardian attending the visit.
- As a final option to parental disputes about a minor's care, the case could be referred to child welfare authorities.

What we expect from you:

- Your child's well-being is your main concern.
- Peaceful, consistent, and purposeful communication regarding our patient.
- The adult who brings the child to the visit is expected to provide information about the visit, diagnoses, and treatments to the other adult involved in the care of the child to best support the health of the child.
- Parents should come to an agreement themselves and not bring the provider into a dispute, if the decision is not life threatening.
- You will not criticize a co-parent in front of our patient.
- You will keep conversations in our office, kid-focused.
- If you are the parent taking the child to the doctor, we will consider you the person responsible for paying co-pays and will expect you to pay them in full. We will not bill you for a portion of out of pocket expenses and then bill your co-parent for his/her portion.