



Our Practice Perspective for Divorced or Separated Parents

Yavapai Pediatrics is dedicated to the health and well-being of our patients. Because our patients are children, we rely on parents and other supportive adults to assist us in their care. Children of divorced or separated parents sometimes present our practice with unique challenges, so we thought it was important to articulate our practice philosophy to you to avoid any misunderstandings going forward.

1. Although both parents have a right to their child's medical information, we will not REPEAT information given at a visit. We request parents share medical information with one another. If a Mom or Dad has a Court Order that restricts the other parent's role, we ask that you provide a copy of that document, along with a letter from your attorney that describes our office's legal obligations.
2. If a step-parent, or other adult, should bring in your child, we must have consent to treat on file within the past year, and care will be given. In circumstances when it is unclear whether or not the attending adult has the right to consent to treat, we will call you to obtain authorization.
3. The parent who brings the child in for an appointment is **responsible** for co-pays or insurance deductible payments at the time of service, even if the other parent is responsible for medical insurance. Please **do not** ask our office to collect payments from a parent who is not at, or maybe unaware of, the visit.
4. If there is an urgent situation and the child is extremely ill, **we will do what we feel is in the best interest of the child**. If this philosophy presents a problem for either parent, perhaps this might not be the right practice for you.
5. Other situations that are not in the best interest of your child and will not be tolerated:
 - a) One parent making appointments, and the other one canceling them.
 - b) A parent who asks us to write or say negative things about the other parent.
 - c) Any other behaviors which interfere with our ability to provide excellent medical care to all of our patients in a warm and peaceful environment

Even though children in split families are affected by this transition, we strive to make decisions that will have a positive effect on the child's well-being. We sincerely appreciate your trust in us. Thank you!

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