



Dear Meridian Pediatrics Families,

Over the past few days, it has become increasingly clear that the Coronavirus continues to spread throughout the Treasure Valley and the surrounding areas. We know these are uncertain times and are working diligently to keep up with the everchanging recommendations. Our providers are staying up-to-date on the latest recommendations from the CDC, WHO and AAP. We have always been and remain committed to the practice of evidence-based medicine. We strive to provide a home for your family for physical and emotional wellness. In these uncertain times we are here for your children and your family.

#### **CHANGES AT MERIDIAN PEDIATRICS**

Starting Monday 3/23/2020 we will have reduced hours seeing patients in our office. We will be seeing patients from 9am to 4pm and our phones will remain on from 8am to 4:30pm. We will see all well-child appointments in the office with a detailed screening before entry to the building. We are asking to limit the number of visitors to the appointment to one caregiver. No other persons, including siblings, will be permitted unless they have an appointment. Thank you for understanding our need to limit this for the safety of everyone involved. Our phones will be on as usual and we have staff on hand to answer any questions or concerns or if you need an appointment.

Starting Monday 03/23/2020, due to the everchanging coronavirus we will be doing ALL of our illness appointments via telemedicine for the safety of our patients, staff and community. Once you see your provider via telemedicine and it is deemed your child needs to be seen for additional testing or follow up your telemedicine provider will request you come to Meridian Pediatrics to be tested in parking lot by one of our clinical providers. Who doesn't love Curbside service with a smile!!

Please be mindful of the protective measures we have put in place at our front doors and respect our screening process. Please answer truthfully and stay clear of the office if you or your child have any suspicious symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath. These are unprecedented times and your cooperation means the world to our Meridian Pediatrics Family.

### ***Schedule for Meridian Pediatrics Starting 3/23***

#### ***Meridian Pediatrics Phone Hours***

***Monday thru Friday – 8am to 4:30pm***

#### ***Meridian Pediatrics Appointment Hours***

***9am to 4pm***

#### ***Telemedicine Daily Providers for Meridian Pediatrics Starting 3/23***

***Monday 9am-4pm - Dr. Zieba and Vanessa McCrory, NP***

***Tuesday 9am-4pm – Dr. Zieba and Mary Walters, NP***

***Wednesday 9am-4pm – Vanessa McCrory, NP and Mary Walters, NP***

***Thursday 9am-4pm - Dr.Zieba and Vanessa McCrory, NP***

***Friday 9am-4pm - Dr. Zieba and Mary Walters, NP***

#### ***WELLNESS PROVIDERS for Meridian Pediatrics Starting 03/23***

***Monday – Dr. Wong and Mary Walters, NP***

***Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – Dr. Wong and Dr. Riffle***

***Friday – Dr. Riffle and Mary Walters, NP***

#### **IMPORTANT GUIDANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the AAP recommends that pediatricians continue to see newborns and infants for preventive care, as well as young children who need immunizations.

We know that delaying care for newborns and other vulnerable children during this time could have devastating consequences for their health. At this time, we are seeing all infants for the newborn visit and weight checks. Following the newborn period, we recommend your little one be seen at 2 weeks, 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 15 months, and 18 months.

In order to continue to see patients in this new environment, we have gone to great lengths to create new office systems to keep our patients, their families, and our staff safe. This includes separating well and sick visits, implementing telemedicine, modifying our clinical space, and curbside service.

Routine preventive and sick care are important to keep children healthy during this pandemic. Data from other countries show that the symptoms of COVID-19 are generally milder in children, but that does not mean they cannot get sick and need care. We should remain vigilant in our response to potential illness in children, and help parents understand when they need to seek care.

We will get through this together,

Meridian Pediatrics Team