



Dear Families,

In response to the Coronavirus, Meridian Pediatrics is implementing the following procedures to reduce the risk of exposure and to keep everyone safe.

Symptoms of the Corona virus are similar to Influenza and the common cold. Every child with respiratory illness symptoms listed below will be triaged.

- Cough
- Runny Nose
- Shortness of Breath
- Fever

When you call to schedule an appointment, our staff will screen for respiratory symptoms. If the answer is “YES” to any of those symptoms we will be transferring, you to our triage nurse to determine the coronavirus risk for your child. If it is determined that your child is at risk, then we will be scheduling you with our respiratory provider for the day. We are designating one provider each day to see any children who may have Coronavirus. We ask upon your arrival to Meridian Pediatrics you park on the north side of the building where the orange cones are. To check in call the clinic with your cell phone and let us know what car you are in. Our designated provider will come assess your child. This is to ensure that we minimize the chance of exposing any of our staff or other patients to Coronavirus.

If you are triaged and it is determined your child is NOT at risk for the coronavirus then we will schedule you with your provider and you will be able to come in the office as usual.

Meridian Pediatrics is following the CDC and World Health Organizations guidance and we are checking daily for updates and adjusting our workflow accordingly. We assure you our staff is following enhanced infection control procedures. It is vital for us to conduct high risk patients with respiratory symptoms away from the building preventing further exposure to our healthy well children as well as our children coming in for standard illness visits. We are following infection control standards and practicing standard precautions as we do in every patient: proper handwashing for 20 seconds, disinfecting and sanitizing surfaces after every patient, using PPE when indicated (gloves, masks, eyewear and gowns), practicing respiratory hygiene (cough etiquette), and practicing social distancing 6 feet apart in our waiting room.

Please keep in mind that at ANY time you have a concern on the coronavirus you are encouraged to call our triage nurses to get the guidance and education you need. The risk in the Treasure Valley is still low and we are monitoring this daily. Influenza and RSV are still active in the Treasure Valley and mimic the

coronavirus. Please do not hesitate to call us. We are here to help ease your mind and provide you the education you need to deal with this issue.

Kind Regards,

Angella Zieba, MD

Medical Director