

Update November 19, 2020

Dear Pavilion Families,

We hope this email finds you healthy and hanging in during this challenging time. We want to give a few reminders as we head into the current Covid surge. Unfortunately, as you may well know, our numbers nationally and locally are steeply rising. Although we all are experiencing Covid fatigue and wish some resolution to this crisis was nearer, this is the time to batten down the hatches again and limit your points of contact as much as possible. Sadly, this is not the time to gather with extended family, or travel out of state, or dine indoors at restaurants or bars. All of these activities have unfortunately been linked to increased rates of Coronavirus transmission. If we can hunker down for a few more months, there does appear that hope is on the horizon in the form of protective vaccines. Until then, we must be patient and do all that we can do individually to protect our communities. Small individual sacrifices, big communal gains.

Please remember, if you or your child has ANY signs or symptoms of Coronavirus - these include runny nose, sore throat, fever, headache, muscle aches, diarrhea, and fatigue - please reach out to us to discuss how we can help you navigate testing. Although we are not seeing any patients with these sick symptoms in our office, we are equipped to visit with you via televisit, and can then order and arrange for testing through our partnership with Johns Hopkins. Johns Hopkins has multiple drive-through testing sites, which are efficient and safe, allowing patients to be tested without having to get out of the car, offering accurate and quick turnaround of results. We are so grateful for and lucky to have this resource. If your child tests negative, and we determine that we would like to further evaluate your child, we can arrange to do a car visit in our parking lot. Please speak with your child's provider to discuss these logistics.

Please also remember that if you or your child has any sick symptoms, we kindly ask that you reschedule your child's well visit. We will happily accommodate you with either a televisit or a rescheduled in-person visit once the symptoms have passed. We must keep our visiting patients and staff safe and healthy as we move into the coming season.

Finally, a brief note to those of you with the good fortune to have your children in school or daycare at this moment. Please understand that this privilege comes with the cost that you may likely have to have your child tested if he/she becomes ill or comes into contact with a positive Covid case. We are unable to clear your child from Covid without a test. Unfortunately, Covid can present in the same manner as a mild cold or seasonal allergies. A history of these, or a "hunch" that the illness is not Covid unfortunately just cannot be accepted as reason not to get tested. We understand this may be inconvenient for you or unpleasant for your child, but we all owe it to our families and communities to keep one another safe. Again, small sacrifice, big gain.

Thank you for your understanding, and as always, don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions in general or regarding the above. We truly miss the smiling faces, hugs, high fives that bring such joy to our work. We're hanging on the hope that our good, coordinated efforts in the following months will bring these back in due time.

In health and hope,

Providers and Staff of Pavilion Pediatrics