



March 20, 2020

To our Kids First Families:

As Governor Pritzker ordered a statewide “Stay at Home” order, starting Saturday, March 21st @ 5pm and ending April 7th 11:59 pm, remember that this order does not apply to the following establishments (as they are essential services):

- Medical offices
- Pharmacies
- Banks
- Gas stations
- Grocery stores
- Hardware stores
- Restaurants (For delivery or takeout only)
- State and local government functions including law enforcement and offices that provide government programs and services.

What’s closed?

- Dine-in restaurants
- Bars and nightclubs
- Entertainment venues
- Gyms and fitness studios
- Public events and gatherings
- Convention Centers

In Illinois, residents are still allowed to leave their homes for essential needs like for health and safety seeking emergency services, obtaining medical supplies or medication or visiting a health care professional.

We are continuing our practice of separating well visit from sick visit times and having separate entrances. We will also continue to have sick patients stay in their car until they are called by our staff to come up to the office so we can continue “social distancing”. Edward Hospital will have their staff stationed at the main entrance scanning people as they enter. There will be a “code word” that will be given to us daily that will allow patients who may have a fever to come to their appointment. If the “code word” is not correct, patients will be sent back to their car.

In an effort to help with patients who need appointments, but are not sick, the Providers at Kids First Pediatrics have begun having telemedicine services. These services allow you and your child to interact in a “video conference” with one of our providers. These cannot be used for well visits but are intended to have children who may need medication checks for ADHD or Asthma still get the care they need and avoid coming into the office. These visits are billed to insurance like any visit is. Most insurances are waiving copays for this service. At this time BCBS-HMO does not participate in this service. We are rolling this out slowly as this is new technology. Please bear with us as we adapt to this alternative service during the outbreak.

We are in extraordinary times. As the world grapples with the Corona Virus we at Kids First Pediatrics are dedicated to continuing to provide your children with the healthcare they need and deserve.

Be safe,

The staff of Kids First Pediatrics