

Farmington Valley Pediatrics

Protocol for Reopening:

WELL CHILD VISITS

PREVISIT SCREENING

- Call all patients 24 hours prior to their appointment time and perform the infection screening questionnaire located on back of the well child visit sheet (Notify MD of any positive answers for decision of further disposition)
- Ask all the routine well visit questions over the phone to minimize in office patient contact times for patient safety and the staff safety
- Instruct patients to complete any necessary paperwork at home prior to the office visit and bring a copy with them to the visit, this includes the ASQ Developmental questionnaire, MCHAT, PHQ9/GAD7 screens, their portion of the Blue school form, Daycare form, and/or Camp forms. Instruct parents that all of these forms (except specialized camp forms) can be accessed through our website fvpediatrics.com under Forms
- Instruct only 1 healthy parent/caregiver can attend the appointment with the child, no siblings or additional family members will be allowed into the office or exam rooms.
- All people over the age of 2 are to wear appropriate facemasks, as per CT DPH guidelines

OFFICE VISIT PROCEDURE

- Instruct parent and patient to call our office on their arrival and remain in their vehicle until given the approval to enter the building (No one will be waiting in the waiting room)
- Payment on balances owed and scheduling of next appointments will be done over the phone while patients are waiting for admittance to the building
- Temperature screens (using temporal scans) on the parent and child will be performed and recorded prior to being allowed into the medical suite (if any temp screen is >99.9 F, do not allow into the suite, kindly instruct return to the vehicle, and to call the front office to reschedule the appointment once temperature-free and asymptomatic for at least 72 hours to 2 weeks, depending on symptoms)
- Perform Height, Weight, and Vision Screen on entrance to the suite, then escort directly to the exam room and perform Hearing Screen
- Perform Height, Weight, and FOC on infants in the exam room, diapers will be left on for the measures to minimize body fluid contact and lessen potential infectious exposure
- Instruct parents to refrain from discarding soiled diapers in the office trash receptacles, and instead bring the soiled diapers with them when they exit the building for infection control purposes

- Give the VIS and collect any required paperwork, forms, screens and exit the room (Paperwork will be completed in nursing station to limit contact time in the room)
- MD will perform the exam, then RN will administer vaccines and return any paperwork
- Instruct patients to exit the building via the back door to maintain unidirectional patient flow and minimize crossing paths with the next scheduled appointment

POSTVISIT CONCERNS

- Any additional concerns not pertaining to the agenda of the Well Child visit will be discussed in detail in a separate medical encounter via Telemedicine appointment, (ie school performance, questions regarding ADHD, depression, anxiety, sports related injuries, sick visit concerns, OCP prescriptions, asthma control, etc)

INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURES

- Perform temperature and symptom screening of all staff three times daily, on arrival to the office, after am appointments, and after pm appointments
- Prescreening all patients and parents as described extensively above
- Instruct parent/patient to notify our office by phone prior to the scheduled appointment of any changes in health status that has occurred after the previsit screening was completed, such as development of a fever, cough, respiratory or gastrointestinal symptoms, anosmia, rash, exposure to COVID 19 persons or PUI, or travel to endemic area, for rescheduling of appointment at a later time
- Physical distancing will be maintained by allowing only 1 medical encounter in the office suite at a time and only 1 parent per patient
- Late arrivals will not be honored but will be rescheduled to ensure appointments do not overlap
- Patients >2 years and parent will be required to wear facemasks throughout the duration of the visit
- Patient and parents will be required to wash their hands immediately upon entrance into the office suite
- Staff will wear appropriate facemask and gloves throughout the duration of the office visit and will change between each patient visit
- Exam rooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected using an FDA-approved disinfectant between each patient use
- Doorknobs and frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned between every patient visit
- Use of toys, bead tables, books, and stickers will temporarily be suspended to limit potential infectious contact
- Limit personal items brought into the office (one car seat and one diaper bag for infants, no items for older children) to limit potential infectious contact
- Limit discussion to well child visit items to expedite office visit agenda and limit exposures (any additional non-well visit concerns/discussions will be scheduled as a separate Telemedicine appointment)

VACCINE ONLY APPOINTMENTS

- Vaccine only appointments will be triaged with the same protocol as all other in-office visits and can be completed in-person in the office setting via exam room vs car , as indicated by parent preference and staff determination

SICK VISITS

- Sick visit requests will be triaged and assigned an appropriate disposition (ie. Telemedicine appointment, phone discussion, or in-person appointment depending on the nature of the concern)
- Telemedicine visits can be used to address the following health concerns:
 1. Routine follow up visits for chronic conditions such as Asthma, Allergic rhinitis,
 2. Routine Medication Checks
 3. Mild cases of cold/fever symptoms, pharyngitis, bronchitis, urinary tract infections, rashes, tick bites, minor injuries
 4. Mental health concerns such as depression or anxiety
- Patient Consent to the Use of Telemedicine form is posted in the Virtual waiting room to be reviewed prior to the start of the audio-visual visit and attestation is given if the patient begins the service

PRIORITIES FOR SCHEDULING VISITS

- Well child visits that require:
 1. Immunizations
 2. Daycare forms
 3. Kindergarten
 4. 6th grade
 5. 10th grade
 6. Sports participation (high school)
 7. Camp forms
 8. College forms
- Immunization only visits
- Sick visit appointments other than Telemedicine visits need to be authorized by MD
- Schedule the well baby visits earlier in the day, older children later in the day