PHCA Separation & Divorce Policy

Many of the children we care for come from families where parents are separated or divorced. Our primary goal is to prioritize the health and well-being of these children. In these cases, we are happy to collaborate with one or both parents to meet the child's healthcare needs.

We kindly ask that parents/guardians refrain from involving our office in family disagreements. Should a parent/guardian's actions disrupt our office operations or if there is noncompliance with this policy, we reserve the right to discontinue the patient/doctor relationship.

When a minor child is accompanied by either parent to our office, we will assume that the accompanying parent has full or joint legal custody and therefore has the authority to make medical decisions for the child, unless we have official documentation indicating otherwise. If there is a COURT ORDER that restricts one parent's rights, please provide a copy to our office. If there are any changes to an existing court order, it is the responsibility of the parents to update our records with the most current version. We will consider the last copy on file as the most up-to-date and will follow that.

We rely on parents to communicate regarding their child's health. Typically, we share our medical assessments and recommendations with the parent who brings the child to the office. Given the volume of patients we see, it is not feasible for us to contact each parent separately after every visit. However, we encourage either parent to reach out with any questions or concerns about their child's health at any time. Please note that while we strive to address questions promptly, some matters may require a phone call or in-person visit for thorough clarification.

We are unable to mediate financial disputes between parents. The parent or guardian who accompanies the child to the appointment is responsible for payment at the time of service, regardless of any divorce decree. Any disagreements about reimbursement or financial responsibilities should be addressed directly between the parents.

Lynn
225 Boston St.
Lynn, MA 01904
781-599-1134
fax 781-586-9284

Melrose
675 Main St.
Melrose, MA 02176
781-665-5131
fax 781-979-4079

Peabody
10 Centennial Dr.
Peabody, MA 01960
978-535-1110
fax 978-535-5910

Salem
600 Loring Ave.
Salem, MA 01970
978-741-8366
fax 978-741-4530

Stoneham
92 Montvale Ave.
Suite 4100
Stoneham, MA 02180
781-832-2530
fax 781-832-2528