



Atlanta Children's Clinical Center, P.C.

November 23, 2020

To the patients and families of ACCC:

Thanksgiving is this week, and while it has been a difficult year for all of us, hope is around the corner. Effective **vaccines** will be available in the new year and therapeutics for Covid-19 infection are improving all the time. With cases rising, however, our public health measures continue to be the mainstay of trying to control the pandemic now. We know that many of you are postponing your family celebrations or gathering with few friends or family members this year in order to decrease the spread. We applaud your efforts! **Quarantining** before visiting others, especially those who are older or high risk, is the most effective. Testing can also help to assure that no one is carrying the virus unwittingly to someone else. To that end, we continue to offer both PCR testing and **rapid testing here** in the office for our patients and their parents. Please call us if you would like your family or your children tested prior to Thanksgiving.

A few months ago we surveyed parents, and you overwhelmingly asked for a “waiting in your car” option when coming into the office. We are happy to announce that we now have **Curbside Check-in!** You will receive a reminder text 20 minutes prior to your appointment time. When you arrive in our parking lot, simply respond to the text that you are “here” and we will either call or text you with a room number. You proceed straight to the room! No more waiting in the waiting room! We ask that you pay any copays or balances over the phone when you make your appointment to avoid having to do that when you are here. We feel this will enhance our already stringent cleaning and safety protocols. If your child is ill or has been exposed to Covid-19 and you are coming into the office, please let us know when you make your appointment. We can bring you in through the back entrance straight to our isolation room. This minimizes risks to our staff as well as other patients.

If your child has already had Covid-19, the AAP recommends follow up evaluation with us to rule out myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle). Please call the office to set this up if your child has recovered from Covid-19.

We continue to offer **telemedicine** visits when appropriate. If you would like your child to be seen via telemedicine, please call the office to schedule and the nurses can ensure that a telemedicine visit will be appropriate given your child's symptoms or your concerns. Telemedicine works best for visual diagnoses like rashes, and counseling visits like behavioral concerns or learning difficulties. We also can do a telemedicine visit after hours—in the evening and on the weekends. Please call the office, follow the prompts to page the doctor on call with our answering service. The doctor on call will discuss the situation with you and convert to a telemedicine visit if appropriate. For the **Thanksgiving holiday**, we will be open Monday 11/23-Wed 11/25. We will be closed on Thursday 11/26 and Friday 11/27. We will reopen on Monday 11/30. There is always a doctor on call to speak with and she may be able to do a telemedicine visit if appropriate so please call if your child is sick. Have a wonderful and safe holiday!

Drs. Maxey, Chugani, & Ference