

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What should I expect at my first visit?

The first visit will be a fact-finding visit. Our doctors will try to gather as much information as possible about you so that a precise diagnosis can be made. This usually includes a review of old records, a complete history, and physical examination and labs and x-rays as indicated.

What if I need to reschedule?

Please call at least 24-48 hours prior to your appointment to reschedule. If less or if you do not show up to your appointment, we may be unable to reschedule your appointment.

Will you bill my insurance and how should I plan on paying?

Yes, we are glad to bill your insurance for you. Please come prepared to pay any insurance **co-pay** at the time of service. If you have a **significant deductible** with your insurance policy, please contact our office *prior* to your appointment to make payment arrangements. Note: In order to make your first visit go smoothly, if we don't hear from you, expect a call from our office manager.

How long will the first visit take?

You should plan on spending about 2+ hours for your first visit. You will be interviewed by the staff and your doctor. X-rays and lab work may be required. These are all done within our office.

Do I need to be fasting?

NO. For the lab tests there is no need for you to fast.

Should I stop my medications when I come in so the doctor can see how bad I am?

NO. Unless you are told differently, you should continue taking your current medications as ordered by your doctor.

Do I need to bring ALL of my medications with me?

YES. It is **VERY** important that you bring ALL of your medications with you so we can see exactly what you are taking currently. It is best if you bring the bottles with the labels on them. It is not necessary for you to bring previous medication no longer used.

Does that include HERBALS and over the counter drugs?

YES. Please bring your vitamins, calcium, herbals, and any other medications that you take on a regular basis, and the ones you may only take on occasionally. Bring them in the bottles with the labels on them.

Can I bring family or friends?

YES. However, it is advisable to *leave young children at home*, as they will not be allowed in the exam room with the patient for their protection and the appointment can be very long.

What else can I do to make my first visit easy?

We will provide a gown for your physical examination; you may want to choose clothing that is easy to put on and take off. Please wear a limited amount of jewelry so as not to interfere with x-rays. We will want to evaluate any rashes. Limited make-up is best.

Thank you, we look forward to caring for you.