

Common Questions Regarding the Annual Administrative Fee

Why did this fee come about?

Insurance reimbursements have not kept up with increasing costs of providing care. We know for the majority of our families it is important that we continue to accept health insurance and hope with this annual administrative fee we can continue on insurance plans.

Most pediatric practices depend financially on seeing a high volume of patients, and using physician extenders to cover the majority of phone care and many patient visits. Village Pediatrics is committed to delivering physician driven care, same day service, and 24/7 access to your physician, which affects the volume of patients we can see.

Why only one fee per family, not a fee for each non-covered service?

We struggled with the fairest way to institute a fee for non-covered costs. In short, an annual fee per family is the simplest way for us to spread these costs across the year for each family.

What will happen if this does not work?

If families feel this is unfair, then our practice cannot survive. We cannot cover our overhead and still offer a level of service we can ethically support. We will be forced to either drop all insurance plans and raise cash fees, or increase the number of patients we see significantly, affecting the time physicians can spend with each patient.

What if I pay the fee and am not happy?

If in the first year as a new patient in our practice you are not satisfied and wish to transfer then we will refund you the full amount of your fee.

How will the fee be implemented?

The fee will take effect every January 1st. We ask that you pay the bill when received. If necessary we will remind you about payment when booking appointments. If you come to an appointment without paying the fee, we will see your child for a sick visit and expect payment at that time.

You do not take my insurance. Do I still have to pay the annual fee?

Yes. The annual fee applies to all families in the practice. It covers administrative costs and services that are not covered or paid for by insurance or cash fees.

My child rarely needs the doctor- why pay for a service we don't use?

Fortunately most people never need to use their disability or life insurance, but they still pay for it. Our practice is set up to provide services in a prompt and personal manner no matter when or if you need us. Unfortunately, we have seen many usually healthy kids in crisis- whether it be medical, social or emotional- and we always make the time to support and guide you through the experience.