

Office News

CAPITAL PRIMARY CARE

February 11, 2013

2012 was a year of change at Capital Primary Care, one that had many ups and downs for our office. Thankfully the changes in the political arena have not foreseeably altered our strategy to bring the best patient care possible to our practice without making compromises. Many challenges still face our office with respect to the 21st century requirements of a small office medical practice. We continue to strive towards our goal of meeting the standards of Medicare requirements of meaningful use of electronic records. Along with this challenge is the upcoming finalization of the 1996 HIPAA privacy rule.

As always we welcome our patients input about the office and are open to suggestions about any aspect of our office that may need attention. We strive to be open to ideas which improve care, improve outcomes and make our patients feel as though they are getting the attention they deserve. All too often the rigors of a busy day may result in a failure to recognize some oversights in the things that matter the most to patients, a sense of caring and dedication to optimal health! So please, don't hesitate to bring up matters of concern to any staff member or if necessary, to myself or our office manager Keith Caron.

For those patients who have been since January first, this will be old news but I wish to inform our existing patients in our practice that we are requesting that all patients re-sign documents for privacy, release of information and assignment of benefits. We require this to fulfill the legal needs of HIPAA. Your patience is greatly appreciated!

An important update in personnel relates to our mid-level practitioners. As many of you are aware, we had on staff Lisa Long P.A.-C who left our office to take a position in south Austin. In the months following her departure in mid-summer, I elected to seek another physician assistant who joined the practice in September. Amela Rizvic P.A. joined the team and has quickly become popular among new and existing patients. I know you will find her to be open, caring and thoughtful in making superior medical decisions regarding care. She is eager to provide care for all conditions in adult medicine along with well woman exams and acute care.

By now the news about this years influenza season being one of the worst on record in the last 20 years has been well established. It is still important to obtain influenza vaccination for the 2012-13 season as new cases of influenza continue to account for a large majority of respiratory infections this season. We have provided care for many cases thus far and have even seen 2 cases in the patient this season! (This patient experienced type B influenza in October and type A influenza in February). Although the vaccine has been less effective, it has proven to be quite safe and could still reduce the burden of infection and spread which has resulted in many hospitalizations and lost time from work. Please contact our office if you are experiencing typical influenza symptoms (fevers, chills, headaches and body aches) before your symptoms progress to severe respiratory symptoms.

We will always appreciate any input you may have to enhance our services. Please send send any comments to our office manager Keith Caron.

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