

## **Important Office Policy Revisal (3/1/2009)**

All patients are advised that prescription refills must be obtained by appointment only. No refills will be called or faxed to your pharmacy.

\*Exceptions will be made for:

1. Patients who consistently follow-up for appointments.
2. Patients who were recently seen for an appointment.
3. Seniors living in nursing homes, or debilitated patients.
4. Unforeseen circumstances expressed by the patient on a case by case basis.

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Doctor's offices are more frequently asked over the phone by insurance companies how often a patient is being seen by the doctor for their medical condition. Your insurance is trying to measure if you are compliant patient!

If you have a chronic medical condition, and/or are taking any prescription medications your medical condition needs to be monitored regularly. It is in your best health interest to return for monitoring of your health. How often should you be returning to the doctor's office? Please read on.

### **Recommended Follow-Up With Dr. Marler**

-Patients with **controlled blood pressure**-follow-up at least every 4 months with the physician.

-Patients with **uncontrolled blood pressure**-at least every month until it is controlled.

-Patients with **controlled diabetes**-follow-up every 3-4 months.

-Patients with **uncontrolled diabetes**-follow-up every month until controlled.

-Patients on **antidepressants, or anxiety medication** every 3 months-4 months.

-Patients on **controlled substances**-sleeping medication, pain medication, ADD medication-follow-up every 3 months.

-Patients on medications for **erectile dysfunction**-follow-up every 3 months.

-Patients on **cholesterol medication**-follow-up every 3-4 months if not controlled. Follow-up every 6 months if controlled.

-Patients on **thyroid medication**-follow-up at least every 4 months.

-Patients on **at least one medication** are expected to follow-up at least every six months or earlier.

**All patients are advised to return yearly for a physical**

### **What do these new policies mean for our patients?**

Most of our patients are excellent patients, and don't need to make any changes. However, there are some who rarely come to the office despite having chronic medical conditions, and typically several medications. With our new policies taking effect, all patients are expected to show responsibility for your health. Patients will be expected to follow-up to continue receiving their prescriptions!

## **What if a patient requires a mail in 90 day supply?**

Dr. Marler will provide you with prescription refills on your follow-up appointment. If you require a 90 day supply this will be provided on your appointment, however no refills will be given unless you have demonstrated consistent follow-up with Dr. Marler based on suggested follow-up intervals.

If you require numerous refills on a follow-up appointment you may be requested to return specifically for this purpose, since Dr. Marler has a limited amount of time for appointments to address your health concerns.