

Town Pediatrics Policy: Separated and Divorced Parents

Purpose

Town Pediatrics is committed to providing high-quality medical care while supporting families in a respectful and neutral manner. This policy outlines how we manage communication, consent, and access to medical information for children whose parents or guardians are separated or divorced.

Policy Statement

Town Pediatrics prioritizes the health and well-being of every child. We remain neutral in all parental matters and will follow all applicable laws and valid legal documentation regarding custody, medical decision-making, and access to records.

1. Parental Rights and Legal Documentation

In the absence of legal documentation, both parents are considered to have equal rights to access medical records and participate in healthcare decisions. Town Pediatrics requires a current copy of any court order or custody agreement that limits or defines parental rights. Without documentation, shared legal custody is assumed.

2. Consent for Treatment

Parent with legal custody may consent to routine medical care. For non-routine or elective procedures, Town Pediatrics may request consent from both parents. Non-urgent care may be delayed in cases of disagreement.

3. Appointments and Communication

The parent bringing the child is responsible for providing accurate information, consent, and payment. Town Pediatrics will not mediate disputes or contact the other parent unless authorized.

4. Access to Medical Records

Both parents may access records unless restricted by legal documentation. Requests must follow standard procedures.

5. Financial Responsibility

The parent present is responsible for payment. Town Pediatrics does not split bills or manage financial disputes between parents.

6. Conduct in the Office

Disruptive behavior is not permitted and may result in rescheduling, separate visits, or dismissal from the practice.

7. Emergency Medical Care

Emergency care will be provided without delay, with consent obtained when possible.

8. Acknowledgment of Policy

Parents may be asked to sign acknowledgment confirming understanding of this policy.

