

East Cooper Physicians Financial Policy and Authorizations

We are happy that you selected East Cooper Physicians for your healthcare needs and look forward to working with you. To help you understand your financial responsibilities in relation to your medical care, we would like to briefly outline our financial policies.

Patients are expected to provide identification and if insured, a current insurance card(s) at time of service. Patients are financially responsible for all services provided and are expected to pay for services at time of service, including any past due balance from a prior date of service. If the patient is a minor child, the parent or other adult accompanying the child will be financially responsible regardless of legal guardianship. Returned checks will be subject to fees.

Medicare: The office will bill the Medicare intermediary. Patients are responsible for the following:

- Annual Medicare deductible
- All applicable co-pays of the allowed charge
- Any non-covered services
- Any covered service ordered by the physician which does not meet Medicare's medical necessity and for which the beneficiary signed an Advanced Beneficiary Notice (ABN).

Medicare Supplemental and Secondary Insurances: The Practice will bill both Medicare and secondary insurances.

Medicaid: Patients must provide the Practice with a current Medicaid card at each visit. Medicaid patients are responsible for applicable co-pays and for all non-covered services. Medicaid patients are responsible for securing necessary referrals from their primary care physicians.

HMOs and PPOs, Commercial Insurance Plans: Patients are responsible for payment of the co-pay, co-insurance and/or deductible, or non-covered amounts at the time of service as well as for any charges for which the patient failed to secure prior authorization, if authorization is necessary. Insurance is filed as a courtesy and benefits are authorized to be paid directly to the Practice. Patients are responsible for the balance in full if not paid by the insurance within 30 days. If the patient is not prepared to pay the co-pay or deductible, a member of the clinical staff will determine if it is medically necessary for the patient to see the physician. If the patient's condition allows, the appointment will be rescheduled.

Self-Pay: Patients are responsible for payment in full at the time of services for all services rendered.

Worker's Compensation: Employer authorization must be obtained before treatment is rendered or the patient will be responsible for payment in full at the time of services for all services rendered. Once authorized, patients are not responsible for any charges unless the workers compensation case is dismissed or denied.

Personal Injury/Motor Vehicle Accidents and Other Third Party Liability: The patient is responsible for the balance in full at the time of service. Any settlement you receive from your insurance company or other third party will be handled by you, your insurance company, and/or your attorney.

Out of State Insurance: If the patient presents with an out of state HMO/PPO insurance card, we will need to verify the patient's benefits for out-of-state or out-of-network benefits. The patient may be required to make payment in full or pay any co-pay, co-insurance or deductible.

Authorizations and Consent

ASSIGNMENT AND RELEASE: I hereby assign my insurance or other third party carrier benefits to be paid directly to the Physician Practice, realizing I am responsible for any resulting balance. I also authorize the Physician to release any information required to process this claim to my insurance carrier and/or to my employer or prospective employer (for employer sponsored/paid for claims). I acknowledge that I am financially responsible for services rendered, and failure to pay any outstanding balances may result in collection procedures being taken. Further, I agree that if this account results in a credit balance, the credit amount will be applied to any outstanding accounts of mine, or to a family member whose account I am guarantor for.

ELECTRONIC CHECK CONVERSION: When you provide a check as payment, you authorize us either to use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a check transaction. When we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your account the same day.

CONSENT FOR TREATMENT: I hereby authorize the physicians, midlevel providers, nurses, medical assistants, and other Practice staff to conduct such examinations, and to administer treatment and medications as they deem necessary and advisable.

NO SHOW POLICY: I understand if I fail to come for a scheduled appointment or cancel at least 24 hours prior to the appointment, I will be considered a "no show" and may be subject to a "no show" charge per occurrence. Ongoing occurrences of no shows may result in dismissal from the Practice.

I understand the Financial and No Show Policies, Authorizations and Consent for Treatment, and hereby agree to them:

Patient or Parent/Guardian if Minor

Date of Birth

Date