



Atlanta Children's Clinical Center, P.C.

January 11, 2023

To the patients and families of ACCC:

Happy New Year to all our patients and families! We trust and hope that you all had the opportunity to spend some quality time with friends and family. Children are back in school, and we may start to see an uptick in illness. Thankfully, we are not experiencing a surge like we did this time last year, and the early peak we had seems to be subsiding. We do, however, anticipate another increase in influenza in the next month or two **so if you have not gotten your flu shot or mist, please do so!** We do still have a few doses of flumist for older children who do not have asthma and some flu shots for the babies and toddlers. Even if your child had the flu this fall, it was likely influenza A strain, and we typically see cases of influenza B later on in the winter so please get them vaccinated. We do not want them to contract 2 rounds of flu in the same season.

There have been some recently publicized recalls of infant sleepers. Fisher-Price's Rock n Play Sleeper was recalled back in 2019 but many items are still out there in the resale market and sadly, infant deaths in them have continued. <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Fisher-Price-Reannounces-Recall-of-4-7-Million-Rock-n-Play-Sleepers-At-Least-Eight-Deaths-Occurred-After-Recall> Atlanta-based Kids2 has also re-announced its recall from 2019 for its rocking sleeper: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2023/Kids2-Reannounces-Recall-of-694-000-Rocking-Sleepers-Four-Additional-Deaths-After-Recall> Please remember that the safest place for your baby is to sleep on their back on a firm surface with no blankets or pillows or stuffed animals in the crib.

The urgent cares and children's hospital continue to **have very long wait times** due to volume and staffing issues so please remember to **call us first** if your child is sick or injured. Many times we can find a way to fit them in the schedule or do a telemedicine visit if appropriate to determine the best course of action. We can order same day/walk-in xrays at the hospital and keep you out of the emergency department if at all possible!

Our staff has been reaching out to all our patients who are due for well visits. Many parents ask about the **necessity of these well child checkups**. At these visits, we address diet, sleep, developmental concerns, school success and readiness, and mental health issues. We also check on growth and puberty, measure blood pressure and examine urine to screen for possible underlying illness that may be asymptomatic. If your child has a form for sports or camp, we can complete these at any time if they are current on their annual checkup. We have some upcoming school holidays and spring breaks just around the corner. These are great days for checkups, and the children do not miss school!

As it is a new year and many families have changed insurance plans, **please remember to present your insurance card at every visit**. If we have old information that we submit to a plan that is no longer current or active, this may delay submitting to the correct plan and result in you being responsible for all charges. We do not want you to get stuck with an unnecessary bill (and let the insurance company get away with not paying!), so please bring in those insurance cards. Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation!

Drs. Maxey, Chugani, & Ference