

ENT & AUDIOLOGY CENTER OF SOUTHLAKE
FINANCIAL AND BILLING POLICY

Patients with Insurance: Deductibles, co-insurance, and co-payments are due at the time of service. Uncovered services are the patient's responsibility. Delays in processing due to pre-existing clauses or administrative delays become the patient's immediate responsibility. A statement will be sent if additional payment is owed after insurance processing. In accordance with Tex Admin Code 28 TAC 3.3703 (a)(28) you may be referred for non-emergency treatment to a facility that is out of network. Please ask staff if you have questions.

No-Show Fee: Failure to provide 24 hours advance notice of the cancellation of your appointment will result in a 'no-show' fee of \$50 per provider appointment, which must be paid prior to rescheduling the appointment. New patients who no-show their first appointment will not be rescheduled.

Referrals: If your insurance plan requires a current referral, it is your responsibility to ensure that the referral is in this office before your visit. If you see the doctor without a referral, you will be responsible for the cost of the visit.

Minor Children: Responsibility for payment for treatment of minor children, regardless of the legal status between the parents, rests with the parent who seeks the treatment on that date of service.

Statements: Statements are sent every 30 days. After the first statement, a \$5.00 charge will be assessed to each statement. These monthly late fees may be charged collectively for unpaid balances. Balances are due before further services will be provided. Failure to pay an outstanding balance may result in termination of the physician/patient relationship.

Copies of Medical Records: Texas law allows the provider to collect a \$25.00 fee, with additional charges due if the records exceed 20 pages. However, we want to provide this service at a cost that simply covers the expense of record retrieval and duplication. This charge is \$20.00, payable before the records are prepared. If your records are voluminous, however, this fee may be higher. Please allow a minimum of SEVEN business days to obtain copies of records. A signed authorization is required to release all records.

Completion of Additional Forms, Reports, Letters: Documents/forms that require the physician's input and attestation, such as FMLA, disability papers, letters to attorneys, etc., require a prepayment of \$20.00 for each set of forms. The fee is due upon submission of the forms to the physician, and prior to their preparation. Such forms require a minimum of TEN business days for completion.

Surgical Deposit: NOTE: Credit card payments made over the phone are charged a 5% non-refundable fee. Based upon your insurance benefits, a deposit may be due prior to surgery. The deposit amount is based on the anticipated surgical procedures, and is only an estimate. The fee is due seven days before the procedure, or the procedure may be rescheduled. You may receive an additional bill from this office after the claim is processed. Our physicians may refer you to a facility where they have a financial interest. You have the option, at your discretion and without repercussions, to choose another facility for your procedure, assuming your specific medical needs can be met at another facility. Dr. Bryan has an interest in Texas Pediatric Surgery Center, Harris Methodist Southlake, and Forest Park Medical Center. Dr. Mettman has a financial interest in Harris Methodist Southlake and Forest Park Medical Center. Staff members can provide you with names of appropriate alternative facilities for your procedure.

Returned Checks: There is a \$30.00 fee for each returned check. Unpaid checks will be prosecuted.

Collections: An unpaid account may be turned over to a third party collection agency that will report the information to all three major credit reporting agencies. All collection expenses and taxes, and all accrued statement fees will be added to the account balance when it is transferred to an outside collection agency.

Refunds: Refunds for deposits made with a credit card on an electively cancelled surgery/procedure will be issued by check, less a 5% processing fee from the refunded amount. Refunds for services delivered are made only after your insurance company has fully processed the claim. Refund checks will be issued to the party who paid the overage (payer), not necessarily the guarantor on the account, unless written instructions from the original payer are received before the refund check is issued.

Complaints: Billing complaints may be made to the practice manager, preferably in writing, who will make every attempt to promptly resolve the issue in accordance with the policies stated herein.

I have reviewed these policies and agree to the terms as stated above. A copy is available upon my request.

Print Patient Name
04 /2014

Signature of Responsible Party

Date