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March 23, 2020

COVID-19 Update:

The Physicians and staff for Chattanooga Neurology Associates are committed to excellence in care for our patients. We are also dedicated to keeping your family, and ours, safe. The health and safety of you and your family are very important which necessitates that our practice adopt certain policies, effective immediately, intended to limit the risk exposure for everyone.

* Since most of our patients are in the higher risk category, we ask that if you are displaying any of the symptoms (fever, sore throat, cough or flu-like symptoms), or have a known exposure to COVID-19, please **DO NOT** come to our office for you appointment. You will need to call and reschedule your appointment. If any medication refills are due at that time, please inform us and we will do our best to take care of those for you
* New Visitor Policy
	+ We will limit 1 visitor/family member per patient. Other visitors/family members will need to wait in their vehicle please.
	+ If your visitor/family member is sick (fever, sore throat, cough or any other flu-like symptoms), please find another responsible caregiver to escort you to the office.
* Telehealth services are available. Please call our office for details.

Our office is cleaned daily, and we recently increased the frequency of cleaning throughout the day with a focus on high traffic areas of the office. We are encouraging all employees to take common-sense health precautions recommended by the CDC, such as frequent hand washing or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

We want to share with you some important information about COVID-19 (coronavirus). This is meant for educational purposes only. Your best sources for the most up-to-date information are the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and your state health department.

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://www.tn.gov/health.html>

**Symptoms of COVID-19:**

-Mild to severe respiratory illness

-Fever

-Cough

-Difficulty breathing

**If you have these symptoms:**

The CDC recommends the following: **Call ahead** to your Primary Care Physician or to the ER (if no Primary Care Physician) if you develop fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as coughing or difficulty breathing, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently traveled to an area with ongoing spread. Your Primary Care Physician or the ER will work with your state’s public health department and CDC to determine if you need to be tested.

**How you can help:**

-Stay at home if you are sick, and restrict contact with other people or pets in your home.

-Cover you cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

-Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol if soap and water are not available.

-Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

-Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

-Clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects and surfaces.

Please know we are actively monitoring and following the CDC and State Health Department guidelines through this rapidly evolving situation. We recognize this is a challenging time for all, and we remain deeply committed to the safety of our patients, staff, and communities. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this difficult time. We look forward to helping you in any way possible.