Treatment of minors

Medical Responsibility

We understand that work and other life circumstances may occasionally prevent a parent from coming to an appointment with a child who is under the age of eighteen. We work hard to balance patient needs and our medical responsibility in order to ensure the optimal and collaborative health care of our patients who are becoming young adults.

Ill Visits

Patients under sixteen years old MUST be accompanied by a parent/guardian when being seen for ill visits. If the parent is present in the building, they may choose to step out of the room at the request of the child. That is always a parent’s prerogative.

Children Under 0-16 Years

If a parent/guardian is absolutely unable to accompany the child, then another authorized and responsible adult must accompany them. The parent/guardian must complete and send in a [Permission to Accompany a Minor Form](http://www.senderspediatrics.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2014-Permission-to-Accompany-a-Minor.docx) with the full name of the responsible party. We will need to see an ID from the accompanying individual. Additionally, the parent must also agree to be contacted by phone during the exam by the provider. If permission from a parent cannot be obtained, the child cannot be seen, unless it is a life-threatening emergency.

Exceptions to this include visits regarding birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, substance abuse, or physical or sexual abuse; when a minor may legally seek confidential treatment or consultation on their own.

Children 16-18 Years

Patients between 16-18 years may be seen without a parent for an ill visit. However, the parent/guardian must complete a [Permission to Treat a Minor Form](http://www.senderspediatrics.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2014-Permission-to-Treat-a-Minor.docx). Additionally, the parent must also agree to be contacted by phone during the exam by the provider. If permission from a parent cannot be obtained, the child cannot be seen, unless it is a life-threatening emergency.

Well Child Care Visits

It is the policy of Senders Pediatrics that all patients under sixteen years old MUST be accompanied by a parent/guardian when being seen for well visits.

Children 0-16 Years

If a parent/guardian is absolutely unable to accompany the child, then another authorized and responsible adult should accompany them. The parent/guardian should complete a [Permission to Accompany a Minor Form](http://www.senderspediatrics.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2014-Permission-to-Accompany-a-Minor.docx).

For a child under sixteen to be seen for a well child care visit the parent must also agree to be contacted by phone during the exam by the provider. If a parent cannot be contacted during the visit the child may not be seen.

Children 16-18 Years

Patients between 16-18 years may be seen without a parent for a well visit. However, the parent/guardian must still complete a [Permission to Treat a Minor Form](http://www.senderspediatrics.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/2014-Permission-to-Treat-a-Minor.docx). If permission from a parent cannot be obtained, the child cannot be seen, unless it is a life-threatening emergency. Additionally, the parent must also agree to be contacted by phone during the exam by the provider. If a parent cannot be contacted during the visit the child may not be seen.