



John M. Henderson, D.O.

SUBJECT: Office Chaperone Policy

To all patients as well as the office staff,

As a primary care physician, I acknowledge that every patient deserves an appropriate and comfortable office setting. I do not tolerate any abusive behavior, language, or innuendo on anyone's part. This includes unwanted touching, suggestive behavior, or indecency of any type.

To provide that setting as well as to protect all parties involved, I have instituted the following guidelines/rules relating to chaperones in the office. They cover both the general office common areas as well the exam rooms during your visits.

1. All patient(s) have the right to at least one trusted family member or friend during their visit with the doctor. Keep in mind you will be discussing your medical care in their presence. **Consent for the doctor to discuss HIPAA protected information in their presence is implied.**
2. All minors will be accompanied to the office by their legal guardian(s). They will be accompanied back to the exam room by their guardian(s). At any point during the visit, the patient can request to speak to the doctor privately without the guardian(s) in the room.
 - a. The doctor will have the right to request the nurse Sarah (for females) or the practice manager Tony (for males) to act as a chaperone during their absence if he chooses.
 - b. If the patient refuses his request for a witness, we will respect their wishes, but different arrangements may need to be made. TO include rescheduling the appointment or referring the patient to another provider.
3. The doctor and/or nurse reserve the right to request a chaperone be in the room at any time. The chaperone will be the highest level of staff member available at the time, of the same gender as the patient.
 - a. If the patient refuses, we will respect their privacy and wishes, but alternate arrangements may need to be made. To include rescheduling the appointment or referring the patient to another provider.
4. The in-office phlebotomist will also be afforded the right to request that a staff member be in the room during a blood draw. The chaperone will be the highest level of staff member available at the time, of the same gender as the patient. As well as the patient if they choose.



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These guidelines will allow for a safe, comfortable, and incident-free visit for everyone involved. If you have any questions feel free to talk to a staff member, or myself during your next visit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Henderson', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr. John M. Henderson DO PC