

GERSH, HARTSON, PAYNE, HOFFMAN and ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Psychology & Psychiatry

Frank S. Gersh, Ph.D.
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David F. Widitz, M.D.

November 1, 2021

RE: Important Notice – changes for patients who see Dr. Widitz.

Dear Patient/Parent,

I am writing to inform you that I've made a change to my schedule that will affect our work together. I have accepted a position with Genesis West inpatient Behavioral Health in Davenport, IA, caring for patients in their hospital usually every other week, Monday through Sunday (switching to Tuesday through Monday for 2022.) That essentially halves my time here with Gersh, Hartson, Payne, Hoffman, & Associates, making me available for appointments roughly every other week. This change in my schedule occurred this fall, and we are working hard to accommodate everyone whose appointments had to be moved. We thank you for your patience.

What this means for our work together is that I am not as available—both for follow-up appointments and for managing issues in between appointments. It therefore is especially important to keep your scheduled appointment. If we see a pattern of no-shows or similar concerns, we'll ask you to seek care elsewhere. **Also, we can only accommodate prescription requests with *at least one week's* notice.**

Emergency or urgent issues that come up will be managed by staff, with my assistant Kelly and Dr. Brenda Payne available to help when the unexpected comes up. **However, I will not be available to make changes to current prescriptions when I'm not working at the Iowa City office.** Please also consider checking in with your psychotherapist and/or primary care provider to help manage any urgent issues with changes to your daily functioning or concerns about medications if I am not immediately available. As always, for medical emergencies please use urgent care clinic, emergency department, or in Johnson and Iowa counties the Mobile Crisis Outreach Unit (855-581-8111). Crisis Chat is also available through CommUnity Crisis Services (builtbycommunity.org or text 855-325-4246).

If you are stable with medication, you may want to consider having your primary care provider take over your care and treatment plan. Please let Kelly know you'd like to transfer your care by calling the office at 319-338-9960 and we will arrange for your clinical information to be available for you to share with your provider.

Thank you for your patience as we all adjust to my new schedule.

Sincerely,

David F. Widitz, MD

Board-Certified Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
Board-Certified General Psychiatry