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Michigan Foot & Ankle Specialists

Welcome!

We would like to thank you for choosing our office for your foot care needs. This information is to assist you with any questions and help you prepare for your visit with us.

Please fill out the enclosed forms and bring them with you to your appointment. Also, please bring your insurance card(s), driver's license or identification and any necessary insurance referrals.

If a parent or legal guardian will not be attending the appointment for a minor, it's required that you send a note stating that name of the person who will be bringing your child and that it's OK for us to treat him/her. The person bringing your child will be required to present us with a Driver's License or State ID to prove his/her identity. We also need to have a number to reach you (the parent or legal guardian) at during the exam. Please note we have to refuse examination or treatment if we have any concerns with who is accompanying the child to the appointment.

List of things you should consider and/or bring with you to make the most of your podiatry appointment:

- Write down all your symptoms and make a list of your questions. Patients often forget important questions they'd like to bring to their doctor's attention until after their appointment.
- What medications do you currently take? Have you undergone any previous surgeries? Write them down!
- Important medical records and test results, including X-rays and MRIs, from previous doctors or hospitals should be brought with you to your appointment.
- If you have special needs, make sure you inform your podiatrist's office before your appointment so they can be sure to accommodate you.
- If you are encountering a problem while exercising and/or walking, bring the shoes that you typically wear while doing this activity with you to your appointment.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR FIRST VISIT

Your first visit to a podiatrist will be a lot like any other doctor. They'll ask questions about your medical history, medications you're on, or any surgeries you've had.

The initial appointment will last approximately 1 hours and will include a foot evaluation. They'll look at how you stand and walk, check the range of motion in your joints, and see how your shoes fit. The first visit is often the time to treat bunions, ingrown toenails, heel and lower back pain, circulation in your feet if you have diabetes, and foot deformities.

Again, thank you for choosing our office. We look forward to meeting you. If you have any questions prior to the visit, please feel free to call us or visit our website at www.MiFootAnkle.com.

BRING TO YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT

Cash, check or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express) to pay for any services not covered by your insurance company. All medical insurance cards (even if we don't participate), driver's license or state identification. Medical History, Authorization to Release HPI, Medical forms. If your insurance company requires authorizations from your primary doctor, remember every visit needs prior approval. If a patient is a minor, parent or legal guardian must be present at initial visit. A waiver can be signed for subsequent visits.

YOU AND YOUR INSURANCE

CO-PAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES

Our contract with your insurance company requires that we collect any known co-pays and/or deductibles. We are in violation of our contract if we don't collect these fees. We will be collecting these fees at your visit. Please be prepared to pay at this time.

CO-PAY vs DEDUCTIBLE

Co-pay: A copay, short for co-payment, is a fixed amount a healthcare beneficiary pays for covered medical services. The remaining balance is covered by the person's insurance company. Co-pays typically vary for different services within the same plans, particularly when they involve services that are considered essential or routine and others that are considered to be less routine or in the domain of a specialist. Co-pays for standard doctor visits are typically lower than those for specialists.

Deductible: A deductible is a fixed amount a patient must pay each year before their health insurance benefits begin to cover the costs. After meeting a deductible, beneficiaries typically pay coinsurance—a certain percentage of costs—for any services that are covered by the plan. They continue to pay the coinsurance until they meet their out-of-pocket maximum for the year.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

We accept cash, check and major credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American Express).

INSURANCE REFERRALS

If your insurance company requires that you obtain referrals or authorizations from your primary care physician (i.e. family doctor, internist), please request the referral prior to your visit. You may need to pick the referral up from their office - check with your primary care physician. Also, please remember you will need a referral for every visit.

INSURANCE PLANS WE PARTICIPATE WITH

AARP, Aetna, Aetna Better Health, HAP, HAP Medicare, BCBS, BCBS Medicare Plus Blue, Blue Care Network, Blue Care Network Advantage, BC Complete Medicaid, Cigna, Cofinity, Coventry, Health Plus, Humana Choice Care, McLaren Health Plan, McLaren Health Commercial, Medicaid, Medicare, Meridian Medicare Advantage, Meridian Medicaid, Meridian Commercial, Midwest Health Plan, Molina, Molina Medicare, Molina Market Place, Multiplan, Priority Health, Priority Health Medicare, RR Medicare, Total Health Care Commercial, Total Health Care Medicaid, Tricare Prime, Tricare Standard, United Health Care, UHC and Workers Comp.

Please note that not all of our doctors participate with every plan mentioned above. We will do our best to schedule you with a participating doctor. However, we can't guarantee that if you're coming to see us for an emergency visit for a foot/ankle threatening issue.

If you don't see your carrier on this list, you should contact your carrier to verify your benefits and their referral network.

