



## LITCHFIELD COUNTY PEDIATRICS WELL PLUS SICK POLICY CO-PAY REQUIREMENTS WHEN A SICK VISIT IS ADDED TO A WELL VISIT

At Litchfield County Pediatrics, we believe that Well Child Check (WCC) visits are extremely important in addressing potential health concerns, keeping children properly protected against diseases, and discussing emotional health and development. A typical well visit may include but is not limited to reviewing growth and development, reviewing diet/sleep/school performance, discussing safety, performing a physical assessment (to screen for murmurs, scoliosis, hernias and much more), administering preventative immunizations, addressing parental concerns, and administering screening tests (hearing & vision screens, anemia & lead screens, emotional/developmental screens/questionnaires).

Generally, there are no copay requirements for a routine WCC. (That rule does not necessarily apply to a self-funded insurance plan). WCC visits are the cornerstone of pediatrics, and there is a lot of ground to cover during these visits to address all the issues listed above. However, sometimes during a WCC there are new diagnoses discovered or worsening chronic illnesses that need to be addressed that require an acute or chronic (sick) care visit layered on top of the WCC. Most of the time, we will address these additional issues during your child's WCC instead of requiring you to schedule a separate appointment to discuss them. As a result, ***if acute or chronic (sick) care is performed during a well child visit, an additional office charge will be placed that may result in a copay charge to you as required per your insurance policy.***

**Acute illnesses** include but are not limited to bronchiolitis, pink eye, croup, common cold, dehydration, ear infection, rashes, eczema, fever, gastrointestinal infections/diarrhea, flu, sinusitis, urinary tract infections, and vomiting. ***Diagnosis of an acute illness during a WCC will result in additional office visit charges for which a copay may be required.***

**Chronic illnesses** include but are not limited to allergies, asthma, ADHD, depression, and anxiety. Generally speaking, just a refill with no adjustment for chronic illness will not result in an additional charge. However, ***a new diagnosis of a chronic illness, changes in chronic illness health care medication, or extensive discussions about a chronic illness during a WCC will result in additional office visit charges for which a copay may be required.***

Your insurance policy determines the copay requirements. Contact your insurance carrier if you have any questions specific to your policies co pay requirements plus any individual coinsurance and deductible limits.

Thank you for reviewing this policy and for partnering with us in your child's care.