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### Contact Us

Green Valley Commons 2305 Green Valley Road New Albany, IN 47150 (812) 949-0405

Visit our Website!

Access Our Patient
Portal

## New Year Reminder

Don't forget to bring your new/updated insurance cards with you to your child's first appointment of the new year. We need to scan and save the information contained on the card every year.

Deductibles reset at the beginning of the year, so we will collect your insurance deductible at that the time of your service.

### Hello!

Welcome 2015! We hope you and your family have had a very healthy and happy new year. In this issue, we'd like to tell you about new walk-in hours, address Measles outbreaks throughout the country, and important information about how you can contact your provider directly via email.

### Walk-In Hours Announced

How many times has it happened that your child wakes up feeling ill just as you're getting ready for work? Now instead of waiting until the office opens to call for an appointment or take the chance of waiting for hours at the Urgent Care Center, you can bring your child into our office to be seen by one of your child's providers between the hours of 8-10am Monday-Saturday. That's right, walk-in



hours now available every Monday-Saturday 8-10am.

Not only is this an added convenience for our families, but it also ensures that your child's entire health record is readily available to the provider - not something an Urgent Care Center can offer.

### Hello Doctor!

Have you ever wished you could email to your child's doctor with the simple questions that come up when raising children? Now you can! If you have a valid email address, you can email your child's provider directly through our <u>practice portal</u>. If you have not received an email containing your specific login for the portal, please contact our office today.

# Winter Weather Updates

With winter already upon us we may have to change our office hours on occasion to accommodate indement weather. If that happens we will send an alert to you via email and will also post any changes to our Facebook page, so be sure to get online and LIKE us on Facebook.



You can also download Healow mobile app, directly from the portal to your smartphone - giving you access to your child's medical record, request prescription refills, and request an appointment in the palm of your hand.

### Measles... What's the Deal?

By now you have heard about Measles outbreaks throughout the country. The CDC reports cases in Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, Nebraska, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Washington. Last year the U.S. reported its highest number of measles cases in two decades with 644 cases as part of 20 separate outbreaks. Outbreaks are largely attributed to a spike in measles in the Philippines and overseas travelers. However, the 121 cases reported in the U.S. since January 1 of this year are considered part of one outbreak.



That being said, we have not seen ANY sign of measles in our office and no one has been diagnosed with measles in Indiana. We strongly recommend that you vaccinate yourself and your children if you haven't already done so. The MMR vaccine is safe and effective in the prevention of measles. When you consider that people infected with

measles are contagious long before symptoms appear and the virus is airborne, do you really want to take the risk?

The CDC reports that one infected person can spread the virus to an average of 18 other people and it can linger in the air and live on surfaces to spread after an infected person has left a room. Complications include hearing loss, pneumonia, and swelling of the brain. About one or two in every 1,000 people infected with measles will die of the virus. Any concern over the vaccine is not worth the risk of contracting the virus.

Thank you so much for trusting us with the health of your family. We look forward to communicating more regularly with you through email, so stay tuned for more information pertinent to the health of your children.

Sincerely,

Drs. Nassim, McMonigle, Mescia & Team