Ronald L. Renard, MD
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW PATIENTS

Welcome to our office. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to complete necessary paperwork. You should allow at least two hours for your appointment. It is helpful if children not being seen at the time do not accompany you. Children under age 18 will not be seen unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian unless a letter of authorization for treatment from a parent accompanies the child. Please turn off your cell phone in our office. We request that you do not wear strong perfumes or colognes as some of our patients are highly sensitive to the odors.

Medications that contain antihistamines will interfere with any allergy testing we may need to do. Cold medicines, anti-allergy pills, over-the-counter sleep medications and some other medicines that have antihistamine activity should be avoided for a minimum of three days prior to your appointment. Claritin, Alavert and generic loratadine (all over-the-counter allergy medicines) and all prescription antihistamines including but not limited to Allegra, Fexofenadine, Zyrtec, Clarinex, and Astelin nasal spray should be stopped one week prior to your appointment. **Do not stop medications you take for your asthma, high blood pressure, heart, cholesterol, or other chronic health problems.** If in doubt about which medications may be a problem please call our office and discuss this with one of our nursing staff.

You will be examined from the waist up. Allergy testing is performed on the arms and back. We suggest that you wear comfortable clothing that can be easily removed from the upper body; shirts, blouses, or sweaters are usually most appropriate.

We will do our best to assist you in billing your insurance. We bill most insurance companies directly for you and we take Medicare assignment but **all co-pay amounts and deductibles need to be paid at the time you are seen.** We accept cash, checks, and credit cards to assist you in paying these amounts. If you feel that you will have difficulties paying for you medical care, please let us know in advance so we may discuss this with you. To avoid insurance fraud, **you will need to have government issued photo ID and your insurance card with you at the time of your initial appointment.**

Lastly, if you find it necessary to cancel or reschedule your appointment please give us adequate notice so that the time we have set aside for you can be used for other patients who may be ill.

We look forward to seeing you. Please contact us with any questions you may have regarding your upcoming appointment.