

# CAPE COD PEDIATRICS

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The transition of care from the Pediatric office occurs as teenagers start to assume more autonomy and take responsibility for and understanding of their healthcare needs. As providers at Cape Cod Pediatrics, we will start the process of working with your child in the younger teen years in building knowledge regarding their own health, and skills in making health decisions. The support of parents and caregivers in this process is vitally important as we prepare your teen for changes in how they access healthcare when they become 18 years of age. This experience will include addressing your child directly for health information and encouraging them as they become older teens to spend time alone with the provider during their visit. Cape Cod Pediatrics will continue to care for young adults through their college years if they choose to remain in our practice.

We look forward to continuing to serve your college student. We can provide well and sick care for them provided they see us for their annual physicals. They are also encouraged to access care throughout the school year for telehealth visits including, but not limited to, sick visits, med checks, and mental health related topics. We also encourage use of the patient portal for non-urgent health care questions or concerns.

We will collaborate with adult teens regarding the age for transferring to an adult primary care physician. This process includes offering resources to locate an adult provider locally, sending medical records, and in certain circumstances, communicating with adult providers about an individual's unique needs.

At the age of 18, youth legally become adults. While many of our young adult patients will continue to involve their families in health care decisions, we will require their consent to discuss health care or financial details, even if the parent is the subscriber of the insurance. Patients aged 18 years and older assume legal financial responsibility for their appointments, missed appointment fees, copays, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts. There are cases where older teens are unable to provide an informed consent due to disabilities; in this case, legal guardianship should be obtained in order to protect and assist your adult child.

Please contact us if you have any questions related to these policies.

As always, it is an honor and a pleasure to serve your young adult and our Cape Cod Pediatric families.

Sincerely,

Roshann Hooshmand, MD

Marie Kayton, MD

