#### Parker Pediatrics and Adolescents, P.C.



# PEDIATRIC PIPELINE

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# 2020-A Year of Turmoil

One year ago, none of us would have predicted that we would be wearing masks, socially distancing, doing virtual schooling, and having telemedicine visits. But we are. However, it is so reassuring to see how well our children have responded. Even toddlers seem proud to wear their masks in our office, and students are handling their virtual learning in commendable fashion.

So what do we predict for 2021?

Finally, after months of waiting, we have **testing** for **Covid-19** in our office—a 15-

minute test for quick results. However, we have been dealing with shortages and delays in getting reorders on these. But we hope to have a supply on hand in order to manage our patients better this winter.

Vaccines will be available this winter and spring, and hopefully will aid in ridding us of this pandemic. We will review all of the data on this and rely on our colleagues who are experts in this area. We will then let you know our recommendations. Approval for children may come later as trials in those age groups are just beginning.

We expect to be able to give vaccines in our office, but will let you know in future communications. It is possible that vaccines could be required for certain activities, such as school, sports, and attendance at concerts or sporting events.

Finally, masks and social distancing will not be going away for some time. Covid-19 will not disappear until a substantial portion of the population gets vaccinated. This will take time. But we do feel strongly that schools should be in person, with opt outs for those who choose so, regardless of surges.

# Thoughts From Dr. Rabinowitz

As I announced earlier this year, I will be retiring in March of 2021. I founded Parker Pediatrics in 1982, as the first pediatric office in Douglas County. I have been proud to watch not only my patients, but the community, grow and prosper. I have also enjoyed writing this newsletter for the past 36 years, and I will write my final chapter of the Pediatric Pipeline in the spring.

Life is often thought of as a circle, and this holiday season, with Covid-19, completes a circle of chaotic Christmases in my professional career. My first Christmas in practice, 1982, was a real adventure. On Friday, December 24, a blizzard hit our area. After seeing a few patients in the office, the weather became so bad that we closed early. However, there was a premature baby just born in Aurora and they were unable to transport the baby due to the weather. With no neonatologists there, I drove through white-out conditions (guiding my route only by streetlights at times as nothing else was visible) to the hospital. As the only pediatrician, I remained the night and cared for that baby (and any others who somehow showed up). We were finally able to transport the baby to an intensive care unit the next day. After digging out my car and struggling home through two feet of snow in my little Subaru, I finally made it home on December 25 (at that time, roads were not plowed on holidays).

By the way, the baby did well!

#### Mental/ Behavioral Health Updates

We are sorry to say goodbye to Dr. Lindsey Einhorn, who has led our mental/behavioral department for the past nine years. We wish her well in her new opportunity closer to her home.

We are pleased to welcome Angela Nock, MA, LPC, to our mental health team. Angela is from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. and attended South Dakota State University, Saint Mary's University, and the Mayo She Clinic. enjoys outdoor activities including biking, hiking, running, and skiing, as well as travelling, baking, cooking, and reading. And raising five children!



There is presently a large demand for appointments for mental health visits. We are doing our best to accommodate everyone, and our move up list is constantly in use. All mental health visits are virtual at the present time.

### This and That

**Dr. Rabinowitz** recently spoke (virtually) at the annual American Academy of Pediatrics meeting this October.

Dr. Rabinowitz also is receiving the prestigious Career Teaching Scholars award from Children's Hospital of Colorado this December. His portrait will be permanently enshrined in the Gallery at Children's Hospital.

We will continue to give **flu vaccines** during scheduled appointments. Call to schedule.

Holiday Schedule: We are closed on Christmas and New Year's Day. We will be open on the morning of December 24, and all day on December 31.



Beware of Holiday poisonings and ingestions: plants (mistletoe, Jerusalem cherry, holly berries), decorations (angle hair, tree lights, ornaments), gifts (cologne, buttons, batteries), preservatives, and alcohol.

With masks and social distancing, we are seeing less croup, strep throat, and flu this year. However, there is a lot of winter to go yet. RSV/bronchiolitis usually shows up during the first quarter of the year and this illness (with wheezing and breathing problems) affects our youngest patients mostly.

We wish a Happy Holiday Season to all of our patients and their families. May everyone have a healthy 2021, as well as a resumption of normality!

## "Quotable Quotes"

The following conversations occurred in our office.

After receiving a throat culture, a four-year-old said to his mom, who was helping to hold him down, "You're fired."



Doctor: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Five-year-old: "I'm going to be either a princess, or going to work at Home Depot."

Doctor: "Do you wear your seat belt."

Nine-year-old: "Absolutely. Yes! All the time. My mom's driving scares me."



A three-year-old who was in the office for possible chickenpox asked, "Do I have Kentucky Fried chickenpox?"

As her infant brother was being weighed, a five-year-old asked, "Can I get weighed to see how old I am?"



Doctor: "What did you get for your birthday?"

Two-year-old: "Cake."

If you enjoy these quotes, you can purchase Dr. Rabinowitz's book, <u>Cute Kidbits, Funny Conversations Kids Share With Their Pediatrician</u>, on Amazon or at the office.

## Happy Holiday Season To All



Taken at our Holiday party, which this year was in early fall, with social distancing—except for the picture!