

Benton Pediatrics, Inc.

5612 NW 43rd Street • Gainesville, FL 32653-3332 • (352) 376-4542 • Fax: (352) 376-4959

notneb@bellsouth.net • Tom Benton, MD • Elizma Mercier, MPAS, PA-C • Beth Noe, CPNP • www.BentonPediatrics.com

The Benton Pediatrics mission:
“To serve our patients in a way that is
pleasing to the Lord”

Flu Season

Flu season is upon us. We have received the vaccine and are ready to start vaccinating. We have both the flu shot and the flu mist (the vaccine that goes into your nose).

Newly recommended this year is that all children ages 6 months to 59 months (just before 5th birthday) get immunized. It is also recommended that any child (or adult) who wishes to reduce the risk of getting the flu be vaccinated. There are also recommendations for individuals with chronic illnesses.

If you would like your child to be immunized, please call the office to schedule a time for this. This year, in addition to offering appointments Monday and Friday, we will offer flu vaccines on two Saturdays – 10/27 & 11/10/07.

There is no vaccine available for children under 6 months of age. The best way to protect these infants is for their family members and caregivers to be vaccinated.

Comments from Dr. Benton

I encourage you to get your child vaccinated. Encourage other children (especially those in daycare) to get the flu vaccine as well. This will likely translate into fewer missed work or school days due to illness for your family and fewer cases of flu in the elderly population.

I pray you all have a safe and blessed
Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Dr. Tom Benton

Fall 2007

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

- We See Patients by Appointment Only •

Insurance

We accept most major insurance companies including BC/BS, Health Options, and AvMed. Understanding your own health insurance coverage is very important.

You are responsible for knowing what your coverage allows.

Health Maintenance

We recommend “check-ups” at age 2 weeks, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 months, and then annually starting at 2 years of age.

Confirm Your Appointment

Prescheduled appointments must be confirmed.

Unconfirmed appointments may be cancelled

In order to accommodate patients in a timely manner, it is important that appointments are kept. If appointments are not honored or are cancelled with insufficient notice, the treatment of ill children is unnecessarily delayed.

We now have a voice mail confirmation line available for use after hours. Call the office, 376-4542, day or night, for instructions.

It is our *PRIVILEGE* to care
for your child.

Thank you for your trust in us.

Our patients are the most important people in this practice - We see sick patients the same day they call, *even on Saturday*.

We are here to serve YOU!

Welcome Beth

Help us welcome our new practitioner! We enjoyed having Beth as a student this spring, and we are delighted she has agreed to join us. Beth has excellent skills and is very caring.

Welcome, welcome, welcome!

From Beth:

After prayerful consideration and following a great experience during my internship at Benton Pediatrics, I am excited to be returning as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. I look forward to a life-long learning experience, and I can't wait to get to know and serve all of our families here.

Beth Noe, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Automobile Safety

The Back Seat is the
Safest Place for ALL Children

- Never place a child less than 5' 2" in the front seat if there is a passenger-side air bag
- One Person – One Belt; never double-up
- New Drivers: Limit the number of passengers
- Children less than 4' 9" should:
 - Ride in an approved booster seat
 - Never use an adult size lap or shoulder belt