



Referral Prescriptions

Pediatric Cardiology

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Dear Parent,

Your child is being referred by your pediatrician to see a Pediatric Cardiologist, a pediatric subspecialist who has expertise in dealing with heart conditions in children and young adults.

He/she is being referred for the following reasons:

- Heart Murmur** - this is a condition in which the blood in the heart and circulation is making a noise that is able to be heard with a stethoscope. This is a relatively common condition in children. While the majority of children with this condition do not have a congenital heart defect, it is good to have the pediatric cardiologist rule out that there is no underlying congenital heart defect.
- Chest Pain** – this is a common condition in which a child complains of pain in the chest area. While this complaint is usually not associated with a heart condition, there is always a small chance that it is. Your pediatric cardiologist can help determine if there is a medical condition that is related to the chest pain.
- Dizziness or Fainting Spells** – this is a condition in which a child feels dizzy or nearly faints or has had a fainting spell. While most of these spells are not due to a true cardiac condition, it is good to have a pediatric cardiologist determine if this condition is related to a cardiac diagnosis.
- Arrhythmias** – this is a condition in which a child complains of fast heart beats, slow heart beats, or irregular heart beats. Your pediatric cardiologist can help determine if the arrhythmia needs to be followed and/or treated.
- Sports Clearance** – every child or adolescent who participates in team sports should undergo a complete physical examination and medical history to minimize chances of sudden event or death while participating in the sport. As part of this evaluation, the pediatric cardiologist will obtain an electrocardiogram and when indicated an echocardiogram.
- Other** - _____

Your child will undergo one or all of the following tests during or after the office visit:

Pulse Oximetry – this is a simple device that is placed on your child’s finger to measure the oxygen level of your child.

Electrocardiogram – this is a special test that records the electrical activity of the heart. The paper printout will also provide the cardiologist with information regarding the heart rhythm and the chambers of the heart.

Echocardiogram – this is an ultrasound study of the heart that enables the pediatric cardiologist to “see” the heart while it is beating and assess heart defects or conditions that would be important to know.

Pediatrician Name: _____

Signature: _____