

A LETTER TO MY PATIENTS

As of April 1, 2018 Texas Family Physicians will change our practice model from Traditional Fee for Service to a Medical Membership model. Medical Membership is a hybrid between Fee for Service Medicine and Concierge Medicine, the main difference being that we will continue to work with your health insurance company (BCBS, Humana, for example) including Tricare and Medicare. A Medical Membership offers enhanced services that are not covered by your insurance which will help our providers at TFP take a proactive interest in your health with high quality medicine and service.

When I opened my practice in 2008, it was my intention to build an enduring practice of medicine through “personal, high-touch medicine with a small-town feel.” Over the last 10 years with continued and increasing demands of the healthcare industry and government changes, I am directed to be more of an “administrator of care” rather than a “physician caregiver.” I am making this change to my practice to be able to continue to provide a progressive, functional and comprehensive approach to your health and wellness. As many of you know, I have explored many different aspects regarding my practice model, its growth and the type of care provided. As a physician, patient care is my highest priority, and maintaining my independence as a practitioner allows me to focus on you, the patient.

By limiting the number of patients in the membership, I plan to recapture the personal and small-town feel of my original practice. I want to better focus on establishing and reestablishing direct relationships with patients and their families, as well as provide greater access to me, as your provider, and our practice.

Upon evaluation of all the dynamics of my patients, my practice, my community involvement and my commitment to be aggressive and proactive in preventative health, the direction of TFP in the future is a Medical Membership. I want to go forward as your physician and patient advocate, utilizing progressive science and forward-minded medicine to focus on preventative measures and wellness planning. My hope is to maintain the focus of care on preventing the disease rather than treating the disease, empowering patients through education and assisting patients in reaching their optimal health. Continuing to accept and work with health insurance companies will allow all of my current patients to have the choice whether or not the Medical Membership model is right for them.

In light of our large practice and current pace, all scheduled patient appointments through March 31, 2018 will be seen and evaluated/treated and billed to insurance as before. I will have a knowledgeable member of my staff available to discuss the services, benefits and estimated costs involved in our Medical Membership in relation to your specific insurance plan prior to joining. Our Medical Membership will begin April 1, 2018 with those patients who choose to be members.

Patients will be notified in several different ways; our website will offer the most up-to-date information in addition to text, email and mail. We will also offer non-member services and options for those who decide that the Medical Membership is not for them.

In summary, I am blessed to have a large, growing and thriving practice. I am honored to have your confidence and trust as your family doctor. The issue at hand is simply that the volume and rate at which we function as a practice on a day-to-day basis is not viable as an independent doctor with the complexities of current healthcare environment. I chose not to commit to a full Concierge practice (cash pay, no insurance) as personally and professionally I find it too limiting for my current and future patients.

The Medical Membership will allow me and my practice to work with your insurance and the policies which health insurance services utilize. By staying in network with many health insurance companies, our practice will continue to be able to provide the referrals and authorizations that are required by several plans. Most importantly, limiting the size of the practice will provide an improved quality of time as well as an improved setting and services to more effectively communicate with my patients at the highest level.

I understand that a Medical Membership may not be for everyone. Please know that my effort and decision is such that this change will embrace and support the great majority of my current patients.

**Sincerely,
Marty Molina, MD**

