

General Policies

Each patient must provide an insurance card and a photo identification card to the front desk, at the time of the appointment. If a patient has no insurance, a photo identification card must be presented at the time of the appointment.

Payment accepted for the insurance-required copayment, deductible, and for self-paying patients includes cash, check, Mastercard, and Visa.

Many private HMO/PPO insurances and Medicare have a deductible that resets each year on January 1. For example, Medicare requires that the patient to pay the first \$100 of each appointment cost until the annual \$100 deductible has been met. Thereafter, Medicare requires a 20% copayment for each appointment. A deposit for the deductible must be made at the time of the appointment.

A returned check fee of \$30 will be charged to the patient for each check with insufficient funds, in addition to the cost of the appointment. A missed appointment fee of \$25 will be charged to the patient who misses an appointment or who does not provide sufficient notice of a canceled appointment. This fee is in addition to any copayments, deductibles, or other appointment costs. Frequently missing appointments or frequently canceling appointments may cause termination of care.

Late fee for failing to show up at the scheduled appointment time (5 minute grace period), not showing up to an appointment, or canceling an appointment with less than 24 hours of notice: \$25 Showing up late to an appointment may result in rescheduling of your appointment.

Bouncing a check, plus any owed fees for the appointment plus administrative fees, as listed: \$30

Administrative fee for failing to pay the required copayment or other fees at the time of the appointment and automatic rescheduling of the appointment: \$10

administrative fee for fees that are billed and not paid within 14 days of the billed date: \$10.

All patients with deductibles or unacceptable insurance coverage must pay a reasonable appointment fee at the visit, which usually will be \$100 for new patients and \$50 for established visits .

ALL patients must pay all fees at the beginning of each visit. People who do not pay their bills are at risk of no longer being allowed to receive care at The Country Doctor, Ltd.

Medications for common illnesses, such as high blood pressure and diabetes, will be given in 3 month supplies, and patients with these and other illnesses must be seen at least every 3 months. Patients with uncontrolled illnesses will be seen more often than every 3 months, and at times weekly. Appropriate work excuses, antibiotics, and narcotic medications will be given at appointments. Exceptions to this may include patients who are home-visit patients and who are dying of a terminal illness. Currently home visits are limited to a 15 minute driving time from the office.

Same day appointments are available on weekdays. Early morning, evening, and weekend appointments are available with at least 24 hours of notice to The Country Doctor.

Accepting new patients from this list of health care coverage

Aetna
Blue Cross PPO (Not the HMO)
Cigna
First Health (any kind, including Mailhandlers and CCN)
GHP (not Advantra and soon no new GHP patients)
Healthlink PPO and Workers' Compensation
HFN
Medicare (not Medicare Complete or Advantra)
Mercy
Private Health Care Systems (PHCS)
Self-paying patients
Tri-Care Standard.
Unicare
United Health Care

Please visit our web page at WWW.COUNTRYDOCTORLTD.COM for additional health information.