

To: LaSalle Clinic Managers From: LaSalle Medical Management Date: April 3, 2020 Update No.: 202004-2 Re: Change to Appointment Center COVID-19 Triage Protocol

Inbound call volume has been reasonable and we have had success with phone consultations. We have the ability to accept an email picture from a patient. Building on this success, starting Friday 4/3/2020 we will offer patients a phone consultations without first sending a telephone encounter to providers.

### **Staff Impacted**

- Appointment Center
- Medical Assistants
- Front Desk
- Providers

## **Health Programs Impacted**

All Program except CDP and Presumptive Eligibility for pregnant women (as these require in office procedures).

## Policy, Procedure or Workflow Changes and Clarifications

Notice: We will continue deferring well care outreach.

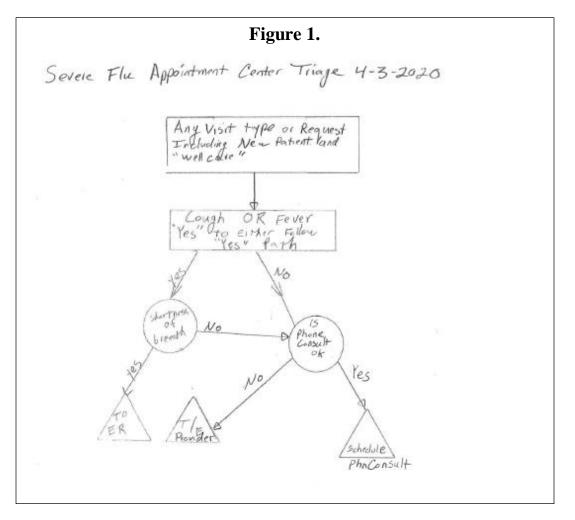
## **Effective Immediately**

#### Appointment Center

Use the appointment setting workflow described in Figure 1 below. Follow these additional appointment setting requirements:

- 1. When appropriate, inform patients they may be asked to email the provider a picture.
- 2. A Phone Consult must be schedule at least 15 minutes into the future- but same shift OK.
- 3. Existing provider schedule start times, break times and shift end times as displayed in eCW must be followed.
- 4. No double booking of Phone Consults (except families), and a Phone Consult cannot be double booked next to a face-to-face office visit.
- 5. Family visits are permitted but all existing rules apply.

- 6. No visit type is currently excluded. So new patient visits that meet our existing Severe Flu Requirements are permitted.
- 7. Follow existing policies to balance patient-provider continuity and schedule availability.



#### **Site Front Office**

- 1. You may "load balance" schedules as usual
- 2. Process Phone Consultation appoints as per existing policy. This includes copay collection.
  - a. Occasionally, a provider's initial discussion with a patient may lead to aborting the phone consultation and rescheduling the patient for a face-to-face visit. In this case, the copay collected for the phone consultation should be refunded.

#### **Providers**

- 1. If your Phone Consult results in you wanting to abort the Phone Consult and see the patient face-to-face,
  - a. Instruct the Front Office to refund any copay
  - b. Transfer the patient to the Front Office to schedule the appointment
  - c. Chart your Phone Consult as usual with all appropriate E&M codes. See communications from Dr. Emoto for additional eCW template options.

# eCW Impact

None

## **Further Clarifications**

If you need further clarification please contact the LaSalle Corporate Office. You may print a staff member policy and procedure acknowledgement at

http://policy.lasallemedical.com/index.php/Policy\_and\_Procedure\_Aknowledgement