



The Asthma & Allergy Center

3503 Samson Way #108 • Bellevue, NE 68123-4303 PHONE (402) 592-2055 FAX (402) 592-2419 www.asthmaandallergycenter.com

Dear Patient,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you as a new patient. We feel very fortunate you have chosen our clinic to assist in the care of your allergy and/or asthma problems. We have a few forms to help prepare for your visit with us.

If you suspect you have an allergy or plan to be skin tested, you may choose to stop all antihistamines five days prior to your scheduled appointment. However, if your symptoms are such that this is not easily done, continue your medications and simply tell us you are on an antihistamine when you come to your first visit. Please refer to the list of medications on the page titled "*For Your Initial Visit.*" Patients under 19 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The initial visit is very thorough and can be quite lengthy. We ask that you plan to be in the office at least two hours so please plan your schedule accordingly. During your visit our physician, our physician assistant, or a UNMC resident physician will review your medical history with you and then perform a physical examination. The history will be orally presented to Dr. Ford or Dr. Brooks. Depending on your history and your symptoms, skin testing may be done. Your history along with skin testing is the best way to determine if a certain substance is causing your symptoms. Another procedure, called spirometry (a breathing test), may be done if there is any history of chest symptoms. Spirometry helps us to know how your lungs are functioning. Any other procedures or blood work may be done depending upon your symptoms. If an x-ray is necessary, it can be obtained from Alegent Midlands Hospital, Bellevue Medical Center, or a free standing x-ray facility, which would be charged separately. Since education plays an important role in managing your allergies and asthma, our nurses will discuss your treatment, including medications, and how you can help control triggers around your home.

For information regarding payment, refer to our "*Payment Policy.*" For your convenience Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover Card, personal checks, and cash are accepted. If you are unable to keep your appointment, please call at least 24 hours in advance. If we are unable to fill your appointment time a \$40.00 fee will be charged to cover our costs in preparing for your visit.

Please complete the following forms and return to our office prior to your visit (if possible):

- *Patient Agreement*
- *Patient Information*
- *Insurance Information*
- *Patient History (4 page form)*

Also, a form titled "*Patient Authorization for Use and Disclosure of Protected Health Information*" can be completed and forwarded to your Primary Care Physician or your referring physician prior to your visit. This will allow a copy of your medical records to be released from your physician and forwarded to our office for review.

Our office is located in Bellevue at 3503 Samson Way, Suite 108. The building is on the north side of Highway 370 and just east of 36th Street.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office.

Sincerely,

The Asthma & Allergy Center