Navigating Your Insurance

The University of Chicago Adoption Center is a Medical Specialty Clinic at University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children’s Hospital. The Comprehensive Health Evaluation of the Newly Adopted Child typically requires 5 visits and sometimes more.

In order to facilitate this process, we have developed a clinical pathway specifically for the adopted child. At each of these visits, your child will be seen by Dr. Larry Gray, a Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrician, and Linda Walsh, a family nurse practitioner specializing in pediatric infectious disease. Linda collaborates with Dr. Ken Alexander and Dr. Daniel Johnson, who are both in-network Pediatric Infectious Disease providers within the University of Chicago Medical system.

We highly recommend that you verify your insurance coverage prior to your clinic visit. Insurance policies vary widely; some people must receive a referral from their primary pediatrician before being seen in this specialty clinic. If your policy requires this, please do so prior to your first appointment with us. Determining this information in advance helps reduce billing errors and difficulties. Some policies require the use of certain providers (labs, therapists and physicians); going to out-of-network providers can incur you a larger bill. Please don’t assume that if one University of Chicago physician is in-network for your particular insurance company, that all are in network. Finally, it is particularly important to know what your particular insurance company/policy covers related to comprehensive lab tests. Collecting this information in advance helps reduce billing errors and keeps your out-of-pocket costs minimized.

Please call the customer service number on the back of your insurance card. Here are some questions that you will need to ask.

- What is the benefit (what your policy covers) for the following providers: Dr. Lawrence (Larry) Gray & Nurse Practitioner Linda Walsh [or her collaborators, Dr. Daniel Johnson or Dr. Ken Alexander]?

- Do you need a referral for this specialty clinic?

- What is the insurance benefit for laboratory tests and are there specific laboratories that must be used testing?