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Dear Parent or Guardian,

We have identified that your child(ren) will be turning 18 years old in the near future. With his/her next birthday, you will encounter many changes, one of those being in regards to seeking healthcare. In order to help you navigate these changes, we wanted to provide you with some useful information for what to expect when your adult child comes to our office.

Upon turning 18, your child will be considered an adult and will be responsible for his/her own healthcare. Up to this point, we have been able to talk with you about your child's health, but once he/she turns 18, we will not be able to discuss anything with you without your child's consent. He/she will need to call our office directly regarding the issue unless they have given written consent for us to speak with you. Additionally, if you need access to your child's records, your son or daughter must fill out a consent online granting us permission to provide you access. Because of this, we will ask your child to complete a new Consent to Share information form. If your child does not grant you access, we will only be able to talk with your child about his/her care. As an adult, your child will be the only one who can request his or her medical records. He/she can fill out a medical release form on our website at shorelinepediatrics.com to get a copy of their medical records.

Shoreline Pediatrics will continue to provide care for your child until they graduate from high school. Your child will be separated onto his/her own account and billing statements for him/her will be sent to your child at the address provided by him/her. Even though the bill may be mailed to your address, it will be addressed to the adult child. Please talk to him/her about the importance of sharing this information with you when it arrives. We will still be able to bill your insurance as long as your child is eligible.

The changes are not being imposed by us as a practice but are mandated by Federal Law once your child turns 18 and becomes a legal adult. We understand this can be a difficult and a frustrating transition for you as a parent. We recommend you to talk to your child about what it means to be responsible for his/her healthcare.

Please feel free to discuss these changes with our office as we are here to offer assistance in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Shoreline Pediatrics