

# Huntsville Pediatric & Adult Medicine

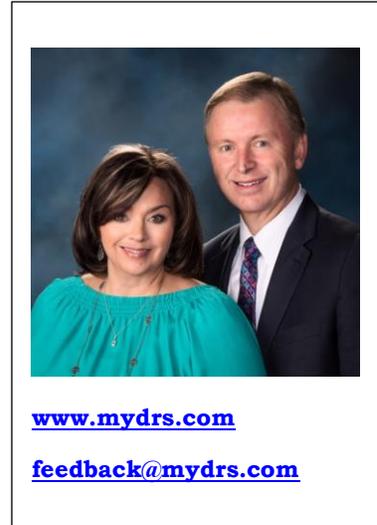
## A S S O C I A T E S

We treat children **and** adults

Dear Patient,

For nearly 30 years, it has been my goal and pleasure to provide great care and build Huntsville Pediatric and Adult Medicine Associates to better meet the medical needs for you and our community. I am thankful for the other eight doctors and two full-time nurse practitioners who joined me in order to meet those needs. In my opinion, these are some of the finest people and best medical professionals anywhere!

As many of you know, I am a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I have been called by the First Presidency of my church to serve as a mission president for the next three years in the Salt Lake City, Utah and western Wyoming area starting July 1st. My wife, Lisa, will serve in a joint capacity with me. We have been given many opportunities to serve the Lord. For me, the ability to practice medicine in our community has been one of the greatest of these opportunities. With a heavy heart, I must take a leave of absence from my practice of medicine to fulfill this assignment. Our mission is to mentor and supervise some 600 young men and women ages 18 to 28 from all over the world as they share the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Though this assignment was unexpected, we are excited for the opportunity to serve the Lord in this capacity. Our faith and family have always been central to who we are.

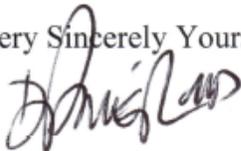


Words cannot express how greatly I will miss you during my three year leave of absence. I truly cherish my relationship with each of you. I love you and am grateful for the privilege to be your physician. I am confident in the extraordinary team we have gathered to care for you while I am gone. I will continue to be actively involved in the practice from afar and will ensure any physician or nurse practitioner additions meet our same high-quality standards. We are actively recruiting another provider.

I recognize this is a surprise to you with a relatively short timeline. I would love to visit with each of you about our assignment. Unfortunately, exam rooms are not the ideal place to visit about this, as that would leave others stranded in the waiting room while we visit. Therefore, I will hold two gatherings at 6:30 pm on April 11th and May 16th at my office to give us a chance to discuss any questions or concerns. I believe you will have outstanding options for your care while I am on this leave of absence. Following my mission assignment, I will return to our clinic in Huntsville to practice medicine.

It is an honor to serve the Lord in this important calling. **To answer some of your questions, please refer to the frequently asked questions listed below.**

Very Sincerely Yours,



David A. Prier, MD

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **When will your leave of absence begin?**

June 14, 2019.

### **Are you coming back?**

Yes. I plan to return to practice medicine in our clinic in Huntsville. Our mission is only for three years.

### **How am I going to get my medical needs met?**

If you are ill, please contact our office to schedule an appointment. For all other non-urgent needs (i.e. physicals and follow up appointments for medicine, diabetes, high blood pressure, labs, etc.), please contact our transition team at 936-439-1163. They will help you to transfer your ongoing care to a new medical provider within our group. Ideally, you should schedule an appointment with your new provider as soon as practical, even before I leave. That way your new provider can see you and consult with me before I leave. Once I am away, my schedule will be very full and this consultation may not be practical.

### **Can I leave a message for your Nurse or Medical Assistant once you are on leave?**

Yes. Once I am on leave, Nurse Practitioner Jamie Green, along with our transition team, will be available to assist with any medical needs that arise until you are able to establish with your new medical provider within our group.

### **While you are on your leave, can I contact you about my medical issues?**

Unfortunately, no. I will not be able to continue to provide medical care or advice during this leave of absence.

### **Will my new provider practice medicine the way you do?**

Each provider has their own practice style. They will not practice exactly as I do. Please realize your new provider needs to get to know you. They will make every effort to earn your trust and confidence. They will not be able to do as much by telephone as me and they may need to see you more frequently for refills. Please respect this and avoid expecting your new provider to practice exactly the same way as I do. Each provider was recruited to our clinic by me. They were sought after because they are quality physicians and providers. All of our providers have received recognition from our insurance companies for quality and for the cost effective provision of health care.

### **Will I be able to see you when you return in three years?**

Yes, I hope to welcome back the vast majority of my patients when I return. I believe some of you will be happy with your new provider in our group and will wish to continue that relationship even once I return.

### **Will I need to change my PCP?**

No, you do not. All of our physicians cover for each other. As long as you have listed one of our physicians as your PCP, you may be seen in our clinic in-network.

### **Will my new doctor have my medical records?**

Yes. They will have the record of everything Dr. Prier has recorded about you.

### **What is a mission president?**

To read more about what a Mission President is, please go to:

<https://www.mormonnewsroom.org/article/mission-president>

**If you have additional questions, you may email them to [feedback@mydrs.com](mailto:feedback@mydrs.com). Keep in mind email is not secure, so specific confidential information should not be included.**