

Clinic Changes Continue

November 2011

The 4C's Clinics have recently implemented a new Electronic Practice Management system, Electronic Health Record and Electronic Dental Record. As part of these upgrades, the Clinic has revamped its Billing and Collection policy and will now bill patients every thirty days, offer payment plans and in certain instances may turn patients accounts to a collection agency based on that person's ability to pay.

In January 2012 several more changes will be taking place: 4C's name will change from the Galveston County Coordinated Community Clinic to Coastal Health & Wellness, the Texas City clinic will move to the new Mid-County Annex located at 9300 Emmett Lowery Expressway (next to Sam's Club).

Also in January 2012 the Clinics will start a contract with Walgreens Pharmacies to fill prescriptions for Clinic patients. When this contract becomes effective:

- Prescriptions will no longer be filled in the Clinic. Patients can get prescriptions filled at any of 11 Walgreens pharmacies located in Galveston County, some which are open 24 hours.
- Currently patients are charged \$10 per prescriptions plus a percentage of the medication cost, based on their pay code. The total cost of a prescription at Walgreens will be:
 - ❖ \$7.00 per prescription for those patients at 0 percent pay
 - ❖ \$10.00 per prescription for those patients at 20 and 40 percent pay
 - ❖ \$15.00 per prescription for those patients at 60 and 80 percent pay, and
 - ❖ \$20.00 per prescription for those patient 100 percent pay.
 - ❖ **Note:** *Patients having prescriptions filled at Walgreens will be required to pay for those prescriptions before receiving the prescriptions. There will be NO billing for prescriptions.*
- The new Electronic Health Record allows physicians to send prescriptions to the pharmacy of the patient's choice, but only those patient prescriptions filled at a Walgreens pharmacy will be eligible for the sliding fee and/or 340B pricing for the medications.
- Walgreens will also fill prescriptions for those patients with Medicaid, Medicare Part D and Private Insurance.
- Patients will have increased access to a pharmacy because of the number and locations of Walgreen pharmacies thus reducing waiting times.
- During evacuation from a storm Walgreens will work with patients to make medication available.

If you have any question, contact GCHD Public Information at (409) 938-2211