

Dear Patient,

My passion in medicine is to see people well! Too many patients come in and they feel that they haven't been heard when they go to the doctor, or they've been given medications without truly understanding what's going on with them. I like to look at medicine as detective work. It is often a puzzle to be pieced together and since we are all highly complex individuals, we often have more than one thing going on with our bodies. Sometimes we don't always need medication; we need time to focus on fixing our bodies so they will work better for us.

Patients deserve more! Patients don't want to feel like a number or feel rushed through their visits and not get all their needs addressed. More importantly, I feel most patients want to have a relationship with their doctor; a doctor who really knows them and whose goal is to give them a better life!

Doctors deserve more too! The government and private insurance companies often also make us feel like numbers. Our medical expertise is challenged by non-medical people in an effort to decrease payment for the work we've already done. In what other profession can you do work and maybe not ever get paid? But it is not just about fair reimbursement. It is about my freedom to treat patients in the best way that I can without government or insurance company interference. I am my patients' doctor, not a faceless person on a "provider" list.

I want to spend my time providing quality, comprehensive care to my patients, not chasing insurance payments. So as of May 1st, 2010, I will no longer be accepting any insurance plans and will become fee for service, just like your hairdresser, lawyer, or mechanic. However, you will still be able to submit your receipts to your insurance company, and you will be provided with coded forms so that they can reimburse you directly (except Medicare patients).

I know that with this arrangement, some of you may be unable to keep me as your doctor, and I want you to know I understand and I truly value our time together. I am providing a list of other gynecologists and primary care doctors that you may transfer to if you wish. We will forward your medical records, free of charge, to whomever you choose. We will refill prescriptions for up to six months until you can find another physician if that's what you decide.

For those of you who decide to stay, I am really looking forward to being able to truly focus on your needs and work on bringing you into hormonal balance and wellness. With the pressure of the insurance companies off my back, I can spend whatever time you need to achieve vibrant health. As I anticipate the birth of my fifth son, I recognize the value of time, family and good quality-of-life. You and I both deserve to embrace life, health and happiness. I went to medical school to be my patients' advocate, not to be bossed around by bureaucrats with no medical training and told how to practice. Our medical system, government and insurance companies have taken the joy out of practicing medicine for many doctors. I'm not going to let them steal my joy anymore!

Once again, I love all my patients and wish nothing but the best for all of you. I look forward to a new day in medicine where the patient comes first, the doctor-patient relationship is valued, and the hard-earned money devoted to your healthcare is used in the most productive way. If you would like a copy of our Fee-For-Service Schedule, please call our office and we will be happy to mail it out. You may pay up front for your fees at the time of service and receive a 20% discount or you can be set up on a monthly debit or credit withdrawal. We will also give consideration to an equitable bartering arrangement. Please feel free to call us if you have any questions and we will do our very best to help everyone make the smoothest transition possible.

With my warmest blessings,

Dr. Poppy

Poppy Daniels, MD