

**CHEROKEE INTERNAL MEDICINE, P.C.**

1192 Buckhead Crossing, Suite C  
Woodstock, Georgia 30189  
678-238-0301

**Maho Akamatsu, M.D.**

**Courtney Maniatis, D.O.**

December 27, 2017

We hope this holiday season finds you well and ready for the New Year. In preparation for healthcare in 2018, we want to send you this information regarding some the changes that affect our office and you as our patients.

There are significant healthcare changes next year, we are not on the AmBetter or Kaiser plans, please check with the plan to see who will be a covered provider. Also, please be sure that we are listed as your PCP if your plan requires one. At your first visit next year we will need to make sure that all your patient information is updated/correct - please bring your insurance cards, photo ID and medication bottles with you so that we can verify that we have the correct information in your chart.

Additionally, The DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) now requires all physicians who prescribe Controlled Substances to have a patient signed treatment agreement and do random drug screenings. Effective 01/01/2014, a treatment agreement will need to be signed if you are being prescribed any of these medications from this office. This agreement also states that we will no longer be able to fax or e-prescribe these medications to your pharmacy. You will have to come to the office and pick up the written prescription.

Controlled Substances have a high potential for abuse with severe psychological or physical dependence. Examples of Controlled medications include morphine, codeine, oxycodone (OxyContin®), and fentanyl (Sublimaze® or Duragesic®), hydrocodone, oxazepam, alprazolam, chlordiazepoxide, clonazepam, clorazepate, diazepam, flurazepam, lorazepam, temazepam. If you have any questions or are unsure if one of your medications is considered Controlled, please contact the office.

As always, we appreciate you trusting us with your healthcare and look forward to our continued relationship in 2018.

Cherokee Internal Medicine, P.C.

Maho Akamatsu, M.D.

Courtney Maniatis, D.O.