

## LONGER APPOINTMENTS, MORE CARE

Your doctor is committed to quality patient care. As a result, we are now offering Shared Medical Appointments (SMAs). SMAs are longer health visits with your doctor. They are held in a comfortable group setting, and can bring more health benefits to you and your loved ones.



## THE RIGHT SETTING FOR LEARNING

SMAs may last from 1½ to 2½ hours. An extended medical appointment in a shared visit setting enhances your care experience. Your doctor will be able to address in detail many issues of mutual interest to patients in a warm, supportive group setting where all can listen and learn.

In the SMA setting, you can learn from your doctor, and from other patients. You can ask your doctor questions about your condition and treatment. Other patients in the group may bring up issues you may have also thought about but may not have asked. In this way, we can learn from each other. Some SMAs are open to your family or caregivers.

## MORE CONVENIENT CARE

SMAs do not necessarily take the place of regular appointments. If you prefer an individual appointment, you may ask to be scheduled in one.

## RESPECTING YOUR PRIVACY AND INDIVIDUALITY

If you need it, you can have individual, one-on-one care with your doctor. There will be time to speak to your doctor in private if all of your questions are not answered in the shared setting.

## YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Many patients have already benefited from SMA groups. They like spending more time with their doctor and with other who have the same issues. This helps them to understand their condition and its treatment better. You may benefit from these special appointments, too. Ask your doctor today if an SMA is right for you.

## IS AN SMA RIGHT FOR ME?

We are very excited about this program. Shared Medical Appointments have been shown to provide many benefits to patients and to doctors. One of these benefits is that other patients in the group may bring up questions that you may not have thought to ask. The appointment is held in a comfortable, shared setting in which your doctor has ample time to answer your questions. Imagine having 1 – 1½ hours with your doctor.

Shared Medical Appointments do not take the place of individual appointments, they are simply another way that we are trying to give you time with your doctor – when you need it.

You may receive a brief physical exam in private if your doctor thinks one is necessary, and you will have time at the end to speak with your doctor if you still have questions. You will receive prescriptions if you need them and have necessary tests ordered just like in every other appointment.



## SHARED MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS



*Making Time for  
Everything You Need*