

## Benton Pediatrics, Inc.

Board Certified Pediatrics  
5612 N.W. 43rd Street  
Gainesville, FL 32653-3332  
(352) 376-4542

### **Automobile Safety**

The safest place for all children  
is in the rear seat

- Never place any infant or child less than 5' 2" in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger-side air bag
- One Person – One Belt: two people using one belt could injure each other
- New Drivers: The more teenagers there are a car with a new teenage driver, the greater the chance of a fatal car crash.  
**Limit the number your teenager can carry!**
- Children less than 4' 9" should still be riding in an approved booster seat. They can be killed or injured in an adult size lap or shoulder belt in the event of a crash.
- Infants should ALWAYS be in the back seat.
- Use rear facing car seats for children – at least until they are 2 years of age.

# Benton Pediatrics, Inc.

5612 NW 43<sup>rd</sup> Street • Gainesville, FL 32653-3332 • (352) 376-4542 • Fax: (352) 376-4959

[notneb@bellsouth.net](mailto:notneb@bellsouth.net) • Tom Benton, MD • Elizma Mercier, MPAS, PA-C • Beth Justice, CPNP • [www.BentonPediatrics.com](http://www.BentonPediatrics.com)

The Benton Pediatrics mission:  
“To serve our patients in a way that  
is pleasing to the Lord”

## Get Your Flu Vaccine

Each year we send you this reminder: consider getting the flu vaccine for your child.

It is true that thousands of people die every year from the flu. On the other hand, most people who get the flu do just fine. Getting vaccinated against the flu protects you as well as those around you. We pediatricians see fewer ill patients in the fall and winter which I attribute in part to more of our patient’s getting a flu vaccine. The seasonal flu vaccine is available as FluMist, delivered to the patient’s nose, or a flu shot. If, however, your child has asthma, a history of wheezing, or a chronic illness, the flu shot is recommended.

For the past few years, and again this year, Alachua County schools are offering to administer FluMist for free. Consider getting your child vaccinated through this program. Free is an awfully good price! And, as usual, we have flu vaccine and FluMist available at Benton Pediatrics for your child.

One more point: If your child is less than 9 years old and this is his first season to be vaccinated, the experts (and I) recommend two vaccines separated by at least one month.

## Fall 2011

### Welcome Miss Jillian!

We waited patiently, anticipating the call. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, we heard the good news: Jillian arrived! We are all over-the-top at Jessica’s good news of her healthy, precious baby girl.

Please join us in welcoming little Miss Jillian to the Benton Pediatrics family.

Jessica has returned to work four days per week, so that she can spend more time doing what she now loves best: being a mom.

Thank you for your trust in us  
It is our *PRIVILEGE*  
to care for your child.

Our patients are the most important people in this practice - We see sick patients the same day they call, *even on Saturday*.

We are here to serve YOU!

### Health Maintenance

We recommend “check-ups” at age 2 weeks, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 months, and then annually starting at 2 years of age.

### Insurance

We accept most major insurance companies. Understanding your own health insurance coverage is very important.

**You are responsible**  
for knowing what your coverage allows.

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Saturday 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

- We See Patients by Appointment Only •

## BentonPediatrics.com

Visit us online and, if you’d like, sign up for **electronic** communication.

## Confirm Your Appointment

Prescheduled appointments must be confirmed.

### Unconfirmed appointments may be cancelled

In order to accommodate all patients in a timely manner, it is important that appointments are kept. If appointments are not honored or are cancelled with insufficient notice, the treatment of other children is unnecessarily delayed.

You can confirm your appointment after hours via voice mail; just call 352-376-4542 for instructions, or you can email us at [confirmbp@yahoo.com](mailto:confirmbp@yahoo.com) to confirm online.

## Swim Safely

Drowning is the number one killer of children under five in Florida, and most drownings occur when it is warm outside, which in Florida can be nearly year-round.

- Never leave your child unsupervised.
- Make sure there are multiple barriers between your house and pool.
- Teach your child to swim and swim well.

**Have a great, safe autumn!**



## Benton Pediatrics, Inc.

Board Certified Pediatrics

Emergencies: let us know “*it’s an emergency!*” and your call will be taken immediately.

Sick Visits: If your child is ill, call before noon and we will see you that day.

Saturdays: We open Saturday mornings to see ill patients. Please call @ 8:30 to make an appointment. We do not have nurses available to return phone calls on Saturdays.

Email: The most efficient way to deal with non-urgent questions.

Medical Questions: [notneb@bellsouth.net](mailto:notneb@bellsouth.net)

Email is checked Mon – Fri except holidays. If you haven’t received a response within 1 business day, please call the office.

Billing Questions: send your questions to [bentonpedsbilling@yahoo.com](mailto:bentonpedsbilling@yahoo.com)

Routine Visits: Please call mid-morning or early afternoon to schedule a check up or other routine or non-urgent visit.

Return Phone Calls: We return non-urgent calls Monday – Friday except holidays - in the order received - before we leave for the day.

Pediatrics After Hours: PAH is open during the hours that we are closed. Nurses and pediatricians are available to assist you. To reach them, call our office, (352) 376-4542, for instructions. An appointment will be scheduled by PAH if necessary.

Prescriptions / Forms: Requests for prescription refills and medical forms require at least 2 working days to prepare.