



Orange County School-Based Telehealth Clinic

Healthy students are better learners. A survey of Orange County schools found that two-thirds of responding parents would like the option for their child to receive medical care at school. Parents said they want to be notified by the school nurse, informed about their child's condition, and given the choice to take their child to their own healthcare provider or authorize a Southern Indiana Community Health Care (SICHC) provider to provide care virtually or in person at school. In response to this community feedback, SICHC now offers a School-Based Telehealth Clinic, providing convenient access to care while students remain at school.

What is the Telehealth Clinic?

The telehealth clinic visits are medical or counseling visits conducted privately inside the school nurse's office. The school nurse utilizes a secure application to virtually connect with a licensed healthcare provider.

What services does the telehealth clinic offer?

- Diagnosis and treatment for acute illness and minor injuries such as strep throat, urinary infection, ear infections, rash, pink eye, colds, coughs, and flu-like symptoms.
- Limited laboratory testing such as strep and urinalysis

- Management of ongoing care of chronic medical conditions such as ADHD and asthma
- Behavioral health services and referrals
- Wellness visits

Advantages of using the telehealth clinic

- **See the doctor at school** – the virtual clinic appointment occurs during school hours
- **Your child doesn't miss class as much** - the visits are quicker because your child gets medical attention without leaving school. ►

- **You don't miss work!** - This is especially helpful for routine wellness, and chronic medication visits as you avoid travel time and the days off it takes to get your children their regular health care.
- **Fewer ER visits** – This means greater cost savings and less out of pocket expenses
- **Prescriptions can be sent to the pharmacy** and be ready for pharmacy pick up when you are available.
- **Fees are billed directly to your insurance provider** – It is billed the same as an in-person office visit at your doctor
- **Local providers are doing this medical care** – SICHC has been providing care to the community for over 50 years and is a trusted partner in many families' health care. Our offices in Paoli, West Baden, Bedford, English, Mitchell and Marengo provide a full scope of services.

How does it work?

The school nurse will contact you if your child has become ill or may benefit from being seen by a counselor during the school day. At the time of that phone call, you may choose to take your child from

school or to be seen by the school-based telehealth provider. A parent will always need to give permission for the student to be seen and may also be present for the visit in person or by phone or virtual connection. If permission is given, the student will have a telehealth visit with an "on-call" SICHC provider.

What happens in a virtual medical visit

The physician or nurse practitioner starts with an on-screen conversation to talk about symptoms with the nurse, child and family member. Then as the nurse uses special digital diagnostic equipment to examine the child, the provider can view a live feed of what the nurse on-site is seeing. This gives a close and clear look at the child's ears, eyes, throat, and skin. The camera makes the visit much more valuable than a simple on-screen visit.

For a Behavioral or Mental Health visit

Good health comes from the whole health of mind, body, and spirit. SICHC is dedicated to improving the mental and emotional well-being of Orange County students with integrated services and collaboration with school counselors

and social workers. In addition, your child may see one of SICHC's licensed clinical social workers on staff or one of our behavioral health coaches who can support students during social or emotional challenges.

SICHC's full list of medical and mental health providers can be found on their website www.sichc.org/providers.

Communication

The SICHC provider who sees your child will provide the school nurse and parents with a written summary of their findings so that you have a clear understanding of the diagnosis and treatment.

Insurance

Services provided at the school-based telehealth clinic will be billed to your insurance company. Co-pays or normal office visit fees may apply depending on insurance coverage.

If you do not have insurance, we will connect you with a certified insurance navigator and offer our sliding fee discount program based on income and family size. No student will be denied services because of the inability to pay. ■

