

# Notice to Our Patients

## Regarding provider-based (facility) clinic status

This clinic is owned and operated by Virginia Mason Franciscan Health's St. Joseph Medical Center as a hospital outpatient facility. As a hospital outpatient facility, we are required to meet stringent federal and state regulations applicable to hospitals, including facility and environmental requirements.

As a hospital outpatient facility, we must also modify the way we bill for medical services provided in this clinic, which may result in a higher out-of-pocket cost.

As a patient of this clinic, you will receive a bill for the professional (provider) services received during your visit. In addition to the professional bill, there will be a second bill that includes a facility charge. This second bill will include charges that cover all non-professional services associated with your office visit. The bill for the facility charges will be sent to your insurance carrier by St. Joseph Medical Center as hospital outpatient charges.

If you are transported by a medic unit or ambulance service, you may also receive a bill directly from the transportation provider.

Most insurance companies, including Medicare and Medicaid, will pay a portion of each bill. The exact amount will vary depending on your specific insurance coverage. You may have deductibles and co-payment that apply.

You may also want to contact your insurance provider to determine how medical services provided in a hospital outpatient facility are covered. This will help you understand what charges will be covered by your insurance plan and what charges will be your personal responsibility. If you have general questions about hospital-based outpatient clinics, please contact your insurance provider first. For specific questions about bills you receive, please call the number noted on your billing statement.

The amount you owe will depend on your insurance coverage. A self-pay discount is offered to patients without healthcare insurance.