



# Separated / Divorced Parents Policy

## <u>Overview</u>

As You Are is committed to providing quality virtual autism diagnostic evaluations for all children. In situations involving separated or divorced parents, we maintain a neutral position and focus exclusively on delivering care to our patients.

## Custody and Medical Decision-Making

We operate under the assumption that children are in the joint custody of their parents, with both parents having equal rights to view their child's medical records, participate in telehealth appointments, and make medical decisions regarding evaluation and care. This assumption remains in place unless we receive official court documents clearly stating otherwise.

## Telehealth Appointments

The parent who schedules and accompanies the child during the virtual appointment is presumed to have medical decision-making authority for that visit. We will not be responsible for communicating appointment details to the non-participating parent.

## Parent Communication

Parents are expected to establish their own system of communication regarding their child's care and share medical information between themselves without As You Are serving as an intermediary. Parents must resolve any disagreements about care without involving our clinical team in custody disputes.

#### Legal Matters

All our communications will be exclusively with parents/legal guardians. We do not communicate with attorneys representing either parent and will not participate in custody disputes except when compelled by a valid court order. Any requests for records or testimony must be accompanied by appropriate legal documentation.

#### **Financial Responsibility**

Payment is required at the time of service. The parent who schedules the telehealth appointment is responsible for providing insurance information and paying any required out-of-pocket expenses. When insurance is provided by a non-custodial parent, the parent scheduling and attending the appointment remains ultimately responsible for payment.

#### Termination of Care

As You Are reserves the right to discharge families from our practice if custody disputes interfere with our ability to provide quality care to the child, disrupt our clinical operations, or create an adversarial relationship that impedes effective treatment.





### Medical Records

Both parents have equal rights to request and receive copies of their child's medical records unless court documents specify otherwise. Requests for records must follow our standard procedures and comply with HIPAA regulations. Each parent is responsible for keeping the other parent informed about appointments and medical information.

#### Appointment Scheduling

Either parent may schedule appointments unless court documents specify otherwise. We cannot mediate scheduling conflicts between parents. Parents are expected to coordinate appointment times between themselves.

This policy is designed to ensure we can focus on providing the best possible care for your child while maintaining appropriate boundaries in parental disputes. If you have questions, please reach out to us.

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Version 2.0 Updated May 27, 2025