

Keeping kids healthy

Meet pediatrician
Dr. Andrew P. Ko



Photo by LYNN SEEDEN

and his staff want their patients to be assured that they do feel loved.

"I took over a 30-year-old practice two years ago," Ko said. "I wanted to improve upon the style of the office, and make this a happy place for the staff, too."

Pediatrics is a serious practice, but this doctor enjoys kids and wants to make his office a place to celebrate life.

"It's the best profession for me," he said. "Kids are innocent and they're fun to work with. Some are very sick, and you have to be objective, but I don't let my emotions alter my decisions. I'm trained to take care of sick children. But the vast majority are healthy."

Ko says he welcomes discussions about vitamins, acne, obesity, ADHD, even academic problems. His patients range in age from birth to 21.

Controversy abounds in the media about immunizations as a possible cause of autism. Ko says he believes in immunizations, but respects patient rights and individual decisions. He encourages parents to do their own research.

Ko is fluent in Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and of course English. In medical school, he took classes in "Medical Spanish" and "Doctoring," which concerns a physician's bedside manner.

Ko wants to accommodate parent schedules, so he has hired a part-time pediatrician and a nurse practitioner to help out on busy days. The office is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Ko is a graduate of UCLA's medical school, and did his residency at UCLA-Harbor Medical Center, a full service pediatrics hospital, including an emergency room just for kids.

He is married and has a 10-month-old son. He's on the staff of Fountain Valley Regional Hospital, Coastal Communities Hospital, Orange Coast Memorial and St. Joseph Hospital in Orange, where he attends to newborns.

His office is at 11100 Warner Ave., Suite 262. For more information, go to www.fountainvalleypediatrics.com or call (714) 979-7788.

By **LOIS ROTHSCHILD**
For Fountain Valley Living Magazine

It's playtime when children walk into Dr. Andrew P. Ko's Fountain Valley Pediatrics office.

The colorful office, in a medical building next to Fountain Valley Regional Hospital, offers comfort and entertainment that allows his patients to relax and enjoy an environment created especially for them.

There's an HDTV with animated movies in the jungle-themed waiting room. Across one wall is painted the reassuring slogan, "My doctor loves me."

At Fountain Valley Pediatrics, Dr. Ko



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