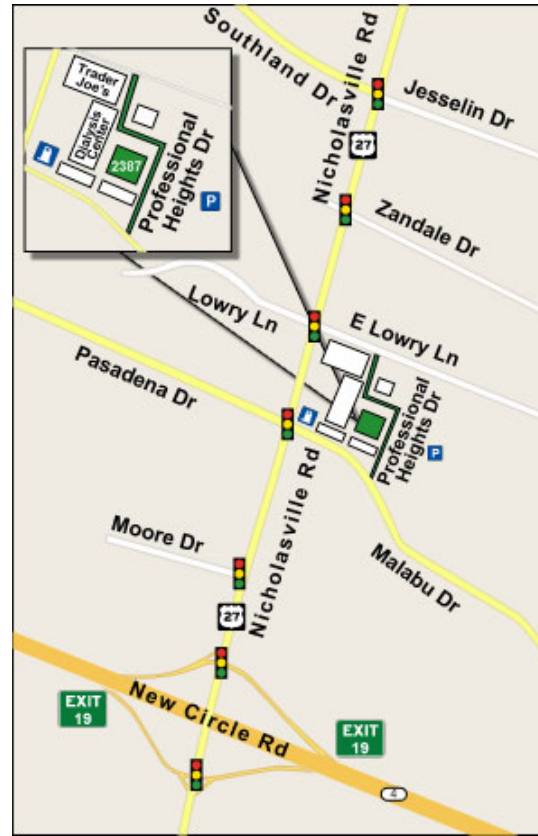


## Billing

Our office participates with most insurance carriers so you may want to inquire about your particular carrier when contacting our office. The payment procedures for our office are: (1) If your insurance is one that our office participates with, you will be required to pay your office visit co-pay at the time of service and you will be billed on a monthly statement for any additional co-payments and deductibles you may owe; (2) if your insurance is one that our office does not participate with, you will be given an itemized statement, with all required insurance codes, and we ask that you pay in full within 30 days of your visit and you will be billed for this amount on a monthly statement. Please remember, when paying by mail always include your account number on your check so payments will be properly posted.

Your medical file is confidential. Please be assured that no information about your condition will be released to anyone without your written permission.

Our entire staff is here to assist the doctors in providing you with the most beneficial and rewarding healthcare as an allergic individual. Should you at any time have any comments on the care given you by this staff, we would appreciate hearing from you either by letter or in person. Our interest is to provide you with excellent and comprehensive treatment.



### NEED HELP FINDING US?

IF INBOUND Nicholasville Rd: Go to **Malabu Dr.**, 2 traffic lights from New Circle Rd, (**beside Rite-Aid pharmacy**), turn right onto Malabu.

IF OUTBOUND Nicholasville Rd. (as if from the University of Ky), beginning at the traffic light in front of Central Baptist Hospital, go to the 5<sup>th</sup> traffic light and **turn left** onto **Malabu Drive**, (*beside the Rite-Aid Pharmacy*).

On Malabu, you will see two long office buildings (*brick with vinyl trim*) on the left. Drive approx. 1000 yards and at the end of second office building, **turn left** onto **Professional Heights Dr.** (across from Rafferty's dining deck). Drive approx. 500 yards--we are located in the first 2-story building on the left. Park and enter at **ground level** (*entry is flanked by brick columns*). Go to the end of the long hallway--our office is on right.

**FROM THE INTERSTATE:** If on I-75 South, take exit 113 to a right on Broadway. Follow Broadway to New Circle Rd (State Highway 4) and take a right. Go to Nicholasville Rd exit-#19, and take a left on Nicholasville Rd and follow the directions in the first paragraph. If on I-75 North, take exit 104 (left on Richmond Rd). Follow Richmond Rd to New Circle Rd (State Highway 4) and turn left. Take New Circle Rd to a right on Nicholasville Rd (exit 19) and follow the directions in the first paragraph above.

**2387 Professional Heights Dr. #60**

**Lexington, KY 40503**

# Karim & Branch P.S.C.

Asthma, Allergy & Immunology  
Pediatric & Adult

*Farhad Karim, M.D. FAAAAI*

*Leslie B. Branch, M.D., FAAAAI*

Practice Limited to Asthma & Allergy

Office

Answering Service

859-277-1137

800-709-7606



**R a g w e e d**

## Welcome

On behalf of our staff, thank you for your confidence in selecting us for your allergy health needs. May we take this time to acquaint you with our office procedures?

## First Visit

During your first visit, a complete medical history will be taken and you will have an examination and consultation with the doctor. If indicated, skin tests will be performed to identify the agents to which you are allergic and a breathing test may be performed to evaluate your pulmonary status. The initial visit takes three to four hours. Usually, the allergy testing requires one visit to our office; however, in some cases, it may be necessary to return for a second visit. The fee for allergy testing varies with the number of tests performed. Depending on the results of the tests and the history, a patient may be started on immunotherapy, which is a series of injections given at regular intervals to build up one's tolerance to inhalant allergens. Diet to control food allergies will be discussed with you, if appropriate. Instructions will also be given to aid in environmental control. Medication will be prescribed as needed. Allergy treatments may be long-term in some cases and may be given for several years in order to build up one's tolerance satisfactorily.

In order for skin tests to be performed it will be necessary for patients to be off antihistamines for seven days prior to testing.

## Allergy Injections

Patients who live locally often choose to receive allergy injections in our office. No appointment is necessary for injections given during regular office hours. However, we do ask our patients to wait in our office for thirty (30) minutes after each injection, therefore, please arrive no later than thirty-five (35) minutes before closing. After each injection, you will be given an itemized receipt, which can be used for insurance.

## Allergy Vials

Since it is not convenient for some patients to come to our office for treatment, the allergy vials are marked with each injection date and dosage and mailed to the patient. Arrangements should be made with your family physician for administration of your injections. It is best to keep the vials refrigerated and not exposed to direct sunlight or heat.

## Hospitalization

Sometimes hospitalization may be necessary for treatment or for diagnostic reasons if the illness is unmanageable on an outpatient basis. The doctors alternate in making hospital rounds and taking phone calls after regular hours.

## Acute Emergencies

Call 911 or take the patient to the closest Urgent Treatment Center or Hospital.

## Sudden Illness

During regular office hours, our number is (859) 277-1137. When you call, please identify the patient and relay the nature of the illness. We will act promptly to handle the problem. After regular office hours, or during holidays, please call our answering service (800) 709-7606. One of the doctors will be paged and will return your call. Please limit calls after office hours to situations requiring immediate attention.

## Telephone Calls

For the doctor to leave a patient being treated to answer every telephone call would obviously be unfair to the patient. The office staff has been trained to answer most questions. If they are unable to answer all your questions, arrangements will be made to have the doctor return your call.

Remember that most illnesses cannot be treated by phone unless the doctor has recently evaluated your condition. Usually an office visit is required before the doctor can be sure of your situation. An answering machine is activated in our office after 5:00 p.m. weekdays, on weekends, and holidays. You may leave your non-emergency message on this machine and it will be acted upon when the office opens. However, non-urgent calls can best be handled during office hours and with your chart in front of us. If you must reach the doctor after office hours, please call the answering service (800) 709-7606 and they will ask the doctor to return your call.

## Prescriptions

Authorization for routine prescription refills will be given during regular office hours only. This may be done by having your pharmacist call our office during this time. If this is not possible, you may call or write to us to have a new prescription written.

## Services Offered

Our practice is limited to providing diagnosis, treatment, and management of allergic and asthmatic problems. Although the physicians are educated and thoroughly qualified to render health care outside their specialty field, all patients are asked to please have family physicians attend to health problems not related to allergies and asthma.