

We are committed to providing excellent internal medicine care to all of our patients and are actively seeking new ways to make care even better. During the last five years the number of internal medicine physicians has declined and the number of patients who need internal medicine care in Northwest Arkansas has outgrown our current staff. This summer we are making some changes to our practice including improved access to medical care in the clinic and changes in hospital care that will allow us to care for all of our patients.

How is the care I receive changing?

Your Internal Medicine physician is focusing on providing you excellent medical care in the clinic with more convenient hours and will no longer provide hospital care after August 1, 2008.

Why?

During the last five years, the number of internal medicine physicians has declined. Our practice is left with very few options. The least intrusive option is to discontinue practicing at the hospital and focus on improving care at the clinic.

How will my access to medical care in the clinic improve?

To help improve access to care, the internal medicine physicians will be more available in the clinic to see you when you are sick. In addition, your care should be timely since your physician is no longer running back and forth between the hospital and the clinic.

More convenient clinic hours

The Internal medicine physicians announce new, extended clinic hours in the morning and evening, Monday through Friday, starting August 1.

Better access to care when you are sick

When you are sick or injured, we will have more same day appointments available and offer direct phone and web access for these urgent appointments.

Your hospital visit

If you visit the emergency room or are admitted to the hospital, ask your provider at the hospital and any medical specialists to communicate with your physician regularly. Your physician will work with you and a physician at the hospital to coordinate your hospital care. When you leave the emergency room or hospital, ask for a complete discharge summary to take to your physician and make a follow-up appointment with your physician. Take with you any new or changed medications, and any other new orders for diet, therapy or follow-up care.

Be Proactive

To ensure you have the best care, you should always carry a list of:

- Your current medications
- Allergies
- Medical conditions and on-going treatments
- Physicians names and phone numbers

Thank you for your patience and understanding. We are committed to providing excellent internal medicine care.

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