

# Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital announces expanded service for our community

## Family Nurse Practitioners (FNP) now covering Urgent Care on Weekends 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.



From left: Katie Simmons, RN; Rochelle Neisius, FNP; and Heidi Kirschbaum, RN, Emergency Room Clinical Coordinator

“We’re proud to be able to provide an additional service to our community,” announces Ellen Zwirlein, RNC, Director of Nursing at Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital. “Nurse practitioners have been hired to cover Urgent Care on weekends from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Urgent Care hours will remain the same 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. excluding holidays.”

Heidi Kirschbaum, Emergency Room Clinical Coordinator, explains the benefits of having nurse practitioners staff the department, “The nurse practitioners should decrease waiting times for Urgent Care patients. They will also be able to spend more time with Urgent Care patients to ensure all their questions are answered. The new staffing is a win-win situation for patients. The nurse practitioners will provide more time for the Emergency Room physicians to take care of the emergency patients. A physician will still be available when the nurse practitioners need to consult with them, and the nurse practitioners will also be able to assist the physicians.”

Nurse Practitioners Rochelle Neisius, Peggy Barton, and Heidi Hochhausen have joined the Emergency Department staff at Memorial Hospital covering the weekends using the outpatient rooms for Urgent Care.

Heidi further explains, “The Emergency/Urgent Care Department is staffed 24-hours a day by a physician and members of our healthcare team who are specially trained in Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Trauma Care, along with

Laboratory, Respiratory Therapy, and Diagnostic Imaging personnel. We accept Urgent Care patient walk-ins, but calling ahead gives us time to prepare for your visit.”

When arriving, patients will receive an initial assessment to determine the nature and severity of their illness or injury and determine which level of care is needed. If the patient’s condition requires specialized lab tests, diagnostic imaging such as CAT scans or ultrasound; treatments such as IV’s, stitches or splinting broken bones; the care will be considered Emergency Care—not Urgent Care. Non-life threatening medical problems that can’t wait until the patient sees their regular physician can be treated in Urgent Care. This includes sinus problems, coughs, flu symptoms, minor cuts and scrapes not requiring stitches, ear infections, sore throats, minor eye problems, sprains and strains, minor skin infection or rashes, and bladder infections.

### 24 Hour Emergency Room

*Emergency Room Physicians*  
R. Timothy Fitzner, MD  
Khalid Ali, MD  
Christopher Burrows, MD  
James Gariti, MD

### Urgent Walk In Care Hours

Mon–Fri 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Sat–Sun 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
No Urgent Care on Holidays



Peggy Barton, FNP, with Melodie Deutsch, RN



Heidi Hochhausen, FNP