



## **Northwest Health Building a Combined Emergency Department and Urgent Care in West Bentonville**

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (August 2, 2021)... Northwest Health is expanding its network footprint, and bringing a new care model to West Bentonville – one that relieves patients of having to decide what level of care is needed. Northwest Health Emergency & Urgent Care, a department of Northwest Medical Center - Bentonville, will be the first of its kind in the area, combining emergency services and urgent care under one roof.

"Our primary goal is to provide the residents and visitors of West Bentonville and Centerton area with faster access to emergency and urgent care services," said Patrick Kerrwood, chief executive officer for Northwest Medical Center – Bentonville. "We have been serving more than just Bentonville and Benton County for many years and this is yet another example of our commitment to meet the needs of any community by expanding health care services."

Construction of Northwest Health Emergency & Urgent Care is under way, with opening anticipated in late 2021. Located at E Centerton Boulevard and SW Tater Black Road, services will be available 24/7.



"Northwest Health Emergency & Urgent Care will be equipped to handle emergencies just as a hospital would, but if a situation turns out to be lower acuity, patients will receive and be billed only for urgent care services," Kerrwood said. "This means that as a patient, you do not have to try to decide which type of location to go to when you need immediate care."

An urgent care typically treats non-life threatening conditions, which may include common colds, flu, strep throat, and lacerations. An emergency room treats more serious conditions, which may include chest pain, abdominal pain, dehydration, and complex fractures. Selecting the right facility can make a big difference in both the level of care available and the charge for services. The need for patients to decide if their symptoms require a visit to an urgent care or an emergency room is eliminated by providing both levels of care in the same, easily accessible facility.

This 11,000 sq. ft. location will have 12 private exam rooms and will be fully equipped with on-site labs, X-ray, ultrasound and CT. This new location brings new jobs to Benton County. Northwest Health is currently recruiting for nursing staff, paramedics and imaging technicians at this facility.

"This approach makes care more affordable by avoiding the higher cost of the emergency room if patients only require urgent care services," added Kerrwood.

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