



# STEELE MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Steele Announces New Urgent Care Walk-in Clinic**

Steele Memorial Medical Center (SMMC) recently announced it will be offering a new service to the community at the end of this month. A new urgent care Walk-In clinic will open August 29, 2016.

Jeanie Gentry, SMMC CEO stated this is in response to strong community input. “Ever since I joined Steele in April, I have heard people asking for an urgent care service,” stated Gentry. “We know it has been very difficult to get into the clinic for same-day issues. This new service will open up access for people throughout our community and hopefully decrease the need to go to the ER for non-emergency needs.”

The Walk-in Clinic will be located inside the current Steele Memorial Clinic. After the current construction project is completed in February, the Walk-In service may move to a different space. “We’ll see how it goes the next six months and decide on a permanent location after that,” added Gentry.

The hours of the Walk-In Clinic will be Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 7:00 pm and Saturday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Heather Whitson, PA-C and Clare York, PA-C will work full-time in the Walk-In Clinic.



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“I’m so excited to provide this kind of care to our patients,” said Whitson. “The extended hours into the evening will be very helpful for people who work full-time. We will see anyone who needs same-day care without an appointment. Then, we’ll work with the primary care providers for timely follow-up if needed.”

Beth Miller, Manager of the Steele Memorial Clinic, says the Walk-In Clinic will not replace the need for each person to have a primary care provider. “We still want everyone to choose a provider who will follow and coordinate care over the long-term,” stated Miller. “Primary care providers track and trend chronic conditions and provide important care to prevent problems from becoming emergencies.”

Physicians Gardner, Scholle, Krakker and Powell as well as Nurse Practitioners Nebeker and Pena-Wyatt, will all continue to provide primary care services in the existing clinic.

“The urgent care Walk-In clinic should be used as a treatment for immediate illnesses,” added Clare York. “But we can also address a variety of other needs such as sports physicals, DOT physicals, etc. Heather and I truly aim to fill the gap between primary care appointments and ER visits. We believe this will drastically improve access for everyone in our area.”

Patients who have questions about the new service are encouraged to go to the SMMC website at <http://www.steelemed.org>, or call the clinic at 208-756-6212.

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