



After-hours Clinic Now Open and Accepting Patients

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St. John's, NL – A new After-hours Clinic has opened in St. John's for patients of participating family doctors, who need immediate care for non-emergency illnesses and injuries.

The clinic allows participating family doctors to offer extended access for their patients beyond normal business hours and helps to reduce unnecessary trips to emergency departments. Care is shared among all participating physicians and any updates to a patient's medical record is sent to their primary family doctor.

The clinic is available by appointment only, to any patient of a participating family doctor. Patients should check with their family doctor to see if they are participating in the clinic. A full list of participating physicians is available at nlma.nl.ca.

The clinic is located at 35 Major's Path in St. John's. Patients can avail of the clinic on weekdays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on weekends and holidays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

To book an appointment please call (709) 752-6646. Phone lines open at 5:00 p.m. on weekdays and 8:30 a.m. on weekends and holidays.

Patients are required to bring their valid MCP card with them to appointments.

Background

The After-hours Clinic is a partnership with Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA) and Eastern Health.

“We are so proud to have this clinic up and running for patients who need care outside of regular clinic hours,” said NLMA President Dr. Lynn Dwyer.

“We already have 28 family doctors and 28 emergency medicine physicians from the St. John's metro region participating in this project. Our goal is to increase that number so more patients can avail of this service. We also plan to expand this model of after-hours care with other clinics outside of St. John's so that more patients can access a family doctor when they need one.”

“The opening of this clinic is part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen both access to and the delivery of primary health care services,” said Dr. Paul Jackman, Clinical Chief, Primary Health Care, Eastern Health.

“The physicians working there represent thousands of patients, some of whom utilize emergency rooms for non-urgent care. This is a step in the right direction as it will relieve some of the demand on our emergency rooms by extending the hours of care that family physicians provide.”

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Enclosure: List of participating family doctors

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