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Akron General Urgent Care Center to Open in Tallmadge

New Service Aimed at Providing Care – Fast!

Community Open House Feb. 1

Akron General plans to make access to high quality care much easier for people throughout eastern Summit and Western Portage Counties as it begins offering urgent care services starting **Saturday, February 1, 2014**. Akron General Urgent Care is located at 33 North Avenue in Tallmadge.

“The scope of practice for the Akron General Urgent Care Center was carefully and specifically designed to offer the community a place to go with minor, yet urgent needs,” said A. William Kedia, MD, Medical Director of Akron General Urgent Care, Tallmadge. “Our new center will serve families (adults and children) who need care for minor, yet urgent complaints and offer a higher level of care than a standard retail health clinic, such as X-ray and suturing. This is especially convenient for minor health complaints when physician offices are closed after work and on the weekends,” said Dr. Kedia.

Akron General now offers this new urgent care service to Tallmadge and surrounding communities, in addition to other high-quality medical services that have been available at this location for years, including radiology, physical therapy and mammography.

There will be a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9 a.m. on **Saturday, February 1**.

Following the ceremony, Akron General will host a casual open house from 9 a.m. to noon. The community is invited stop by to receive a free blood pressure screening, a stay well first-aid kit (while supplies last), hot chocolate, and to enter for a chance to win a TV to watch the “big game” on February 2.

Urgent Care services will begin on **Saturday, February 1** at 9 a.m. Hours of Operation will be Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday noon – 5 p.m.

This new facility will offer care for urgent, but not emergent medical situations and wellness services including, but not limited to:

- Minor illness care: Sore throat, upper respiratory infections, urinary tract infections, rashes and more
- Immunizations: Flu and tetanus vaccines

- more -

- Minor Injuries: Sprains, strains, closed fractures (without complications), simple lacerations
- X-Rays
- Limited lab testing: rapid strep, urinalysis and blood glucose
- Occupational health: evaluation of injuries and flu vaccinations
- Sports/school physicals for children

No IV medication or CT scans will occur at Urgent Care centers, but instead patients presenting with complaints needing more advanced level of care will be directed to an Emergency Department.

Urgent Care centers are becoming an increasingly important option in managed care health plans because it provides the right level of care at the right time. As high-deductible plans and cost-sharing are encouraged by employers, Urgent Care can be an attractive, lower cost alternative to an Emergency Department visit and it offers immediate access to care at the patient's convenience.

About Akron General Health System

Akron General Health System is a not-for-profit health care organization that has been improving the health and lives of the people and communities it serves since 1914. Akron General Health System includes: Akron General Medical Center, a 511-bed teaching and research medical center, and Edwin Shaw Rehabilitation Institute, the area's largest provider of rehabilitation services; Akron General Partners, which includes Partners Physician Group, the Akron General Health & Wellness Centers, Lodi Community Hospital, Community Health Centers and other companies; Akron General Community Health Ventures, which includes Visiting Nurse Service and Affiliates; and Akron General Foundation. Recently, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Akron General Medical Center as the fifth best hospital in Ohio. In 2013, the American Nurses Association bestowed the prestigious "Magnet" status on the more than 1,000 nurses from Akron General Medical Center, Edwin Shaw Rehabilitation Institute and the Health System's Health & Wellness Centers. For more information about Akron General Health System, visit www.akrongeneral.org.

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