

CareWell Urgent Care Center Now Open in Peabody

Center offers efficient, affordable care without the wait

PEABODY, Mass., December 5, 2013 – <u>CareWell Urgent Care</u> today announced the opening of its urgent care center in Peabody, MA. The center is open from 8:00am-8:00pm seven days a week and offers medical care from Board-certified doctors, without a referral or appointment.

Patients can visit CareWell centers for all non-life-threatening, but still urgent, illnesses or injuries, including colds, flu, infections, fractures, cuts, rashes and allergic reactions. Centers offer preventative care such as flu shots, vaccinations and routine physical exams, and have onsite x-ray and lab capabilities. Additional services include pre-employment exams, drug testing, breath alcohol tests, sport & school physicals, DOT physicals, and vaccinations.

"We understand that injuries and illnesses don't always happen during business hours," noted CEO Shaun Ginter. "Our centers in Massachusetts are open 12 hours a day, seven days a week, including evenings, and you'll typically be seen by a doctor within minutes of arriving, instead of waiting hours, as you might in an emergency room."

CareWell Urgent Care functions as an extension of a patient's own primary care provider, whether the patient lives nearby or is visiting from another part of the country. With the patient's permission, CareWell will forward x-rays, lab results and diagnostic notes to the patient's own doctor within 24 hours of their visit.

"CareWell provides quality medical care that's both accessible and affordable," said Dr. Jack Cornwell, CareWell's Medical Director. "We accept most insurance plans, including Medicare, and a visit is typically much less expensive than a trip to the ER - in fact, the co-pay and fees are comparable to an office visit with your primary care doctor. We also have very affordable self-pay rates for those who do not have insurance or choose this option"

Urgent care centers are rapidly gaining popularity across the United States as an alternative to emergency room care. According to the Urgent Care Association of America, there are approximately 9,000 urgent care centers in the U.S., with 40 percent expecting to expand their existing site or add another site. In 2012, urgent care centers saw an average of 357 patients per week each, which translates to more than 160 million total visits annually. Many health insurance companies including Blue Cross Blue Shield, Tufts Health Plan, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Aetna now recommend an urgent care center when a patient calls their insurer's hotline after hours.

All CareWell Massachusetts locations are open 8:00am-8:00pm seven days a week. The Peabody CareWell Urgent Care center is located at 229 Andover Street (Route 114), Peabody, MA 01960, and can be reached at (978) 826-5950. Additional information can be found at http://www.carewellurgentcare.com/.

About CareWell Urgent Care

Established in 2012, <u>CareWell Urgent Care</u> (care provided by Carewell Urgent Care Centers of Massachusetts, PC) is a leading provider of accessible, efficient neighborhood healthcare. CareWell is committed to changing the delivery of healthcare in America by providing ondemand, high quality, affordable care. Our approach is patient-centered, with Board-certified physicians on-site at all times and an emphasis on full collaboration with the patient's regular healthcare team. CareWell Urgent Care has centers in Billerica, Lexington, Needham, Norwell, Peabody, South Dennis and Tewksbury, MA, as well as Warwick, RI, with additional centers slated to open throughout New England in 2014.

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