

A teaching clinic of National College of Natural Medicine (NCNM)

♦ OUR TEAM OF ♦ HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

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In a collaborative alliance with...





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An Introduction to the Heart & Lung Wellness Community Clinic

For Referring Providers and Community Resource Organizations

The Center for Natural Medicine is as pleased as ever to host our NCNM teaching rotation, and excited to support the Coalition of Community Clinics in an ever-evolving capacity. Please read over the following information, feel free to share it around your community, and use it to determine if we are a good fit to serve your patients and clients.

WHO WE ARE: A naturopathic primary care clinic, serving Portland for over 20 years. Our Heart & Lung Wellness Clinic on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons has always been an NCNM teaching clinic, offering excellent care at a discount to those who are willing to have students participate in their care. Dr Martin Milner, professor of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary medicine at NCNM, supervises the clinic where patients can seek not only primary care, but diagnosis and treatment for heart and lung conditions. This clinic has also been a valuable resource for outside physicians needing to refer patients for affordable diagnostic testing.

WHAT HAS CHANGED: Heart & Lung Wellness is supporting without actual membership in the Coalition of Community Clinics through our affiliation with NCNM. We have reduced our fees for the teaching rotation to be as affordable as possible for those who are uninsured and low-income, while still permitting us to remain operational. Our Heart & Lung Wellness Community Clinic fee schedule is reserved for patients who meet the income requirements, are uninsured or underinsured, and who are able to pay out of pocket at time of service. The clinic is still held on Tuesday and Thursday, but we have expanded our hours and now can schedule patients from approximately 1:00-8:00PM, and have the staff and providers to manage 24 or more patients each clinic day. We can usually get patients in within a week of receiving a referral.

WHAT WE ARE NOT: We do not have non-profit status, public funding or subsidation. We are not a Coalition Clinic, but we believe in what the CCC is doing and want to participate in the way we can. Unfortunately we do not have the capability to enroll patients in assistance programs like Project Access, which can provide opportunities for very low income patients to get the testing and care they need, regardless of ability to pay. Our fees are as low as possible and we have to collect at time of service to sustain the clinic. We are filling a low-middle niche, providing care for patients who can't afford insurance or to pay full-price out-of-pocket fees, but can budget for the fees we charge in our Community Clinic. At this time we are not able to offer women's health exams, STD screening, or any obstetric care in our Community Clinic, but there are several CCC clinics that do, so please refer to them when appropriate.

HOW PATIENTS QUALIFY: Patient eligibility for our Community Clinic is determined based mainly on income and insurance status. We do not require proof of income or address. We use 200% of the federal poverty level as a guideline, plus other information provided by the patient. This means that many people in Portland, even those who work full-time, qualify. If a patient is referred by another Community Clinic for testing or consultation, they automatically qualify.

HOW TO REFER YOUR PATIENTS: Fill out one of our referral forms as completely and legibly as possible and fax it, along with any helpful notes, labs, etc., to us at 503-232-7751. Give a copy of the referral to your patient and tell them they can call 503-232-1100 to schedule. We will not schedule patients for procedures if we have not received a written referral in advance. If you are simply recommending someone to our clinic to establish care and seek treatment, then no referral is needed, but any relevant records or notes sent in advance are greatly appreciated. Please have your patients request to schedule with the Community Clinic when they call. We are unable to provide interpreters, so if your patient requires language assistance, please arrange that for them, or ask them to bring someone fluent in English to assist in their visits.

We look forward to working with you! Please call us at 503-232-1100 for more information.

For further online information and resources go to: http://cnmwellness.com/heart-lung-wellness/