

By Cathy Wentz

Accidents don't come with doctor appointments, and often waiting in an emergency room can be a long, time consuming and expensive process.

Quick and integrated care is the best solution for any injury, including those to the bones, muscles, ligaments or any other part of the musculoskeletal system, as well as cuts requiring stitches. In fact, bypassing the emergency room or standard urgent care center for many injuries, which often result in a referral to an orthopaedic physician anyway, can speedily move the injured person into recovery mode.

In 2005, facilities specializing exclusively in quick care of orthopaedic injuries started to open and have become prevalent throughout the country. In fact, Dr. Alejandro Badia, of OrthoNOW in Doral, Florida, estimates that there are now between 170 and 180 centers in existence at this time.

Southern Utah is very fortunate and proud to have one of these specialty facilities right here in Cedar City. Dr. Randy Delcore, founded the Cedar Orthopaedic Surgery Specialty Clinic nearly 20 years ago. Approximately three years ago, in an effort to better serve his customers, he proudly added Cedar Orthopaedic Direct Care to the services provided by the clinic. Delcore qualifies that while his orthopaedic direct care practice does not operate as a typical urgent care center, it does offer the same advantage of avoiding the emergency room, if preferred.

"It's direct access to orthopaedics," he said, noting that either he or his physician assistant, Jared Green, are available 24 hours, seven days a week. This direct access clearly saves significant time and money and leads to more efficient delivery of orthopaedic care.

Delcore said that in most cases, immediate care will be available at the office. However, in other cases, such as late at night, the situation will be assessed, and after speaking with the doctor, the decision to meet in the office directly, be sent to the emergency room or be met at the office first thing the next morning will be made.

"And most parents don't necessarily want to be seen the minute they're calling unless it is a true emergency," he said. "Otherwise they just want to know that everything will be okay and that they can be seen first thing in the morning."

He gave the example of a child who fell during the night and is holding his arm. He said the direct care model helps parents to decide what they should do next – provide comfort measures until their child can get medical attention first thing in the morning or take the child to the emergency room.

To seek orthopaedic direct care and Dr. Delcore, call (435) DEL-CORE anytime! For more information regarding Direct Care, go to the web page delcore.org/Delcore_org_CODC. The Cedar Orthopaedic Surgery Specialty Clinic also provides an option for many on-site surgical procedures, including same day partial and total knee replacements, total hip replacements and even spine procedures.





Cedar Orthopaedic Surgery Specialty Clinic



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