



After Hours Injury Clinic at Orthopaedic Associates of St. Augustine

In a continuing effort to provide residents of St. Augustine with the best in professional orthopaedic care, Orthopaedic Associates of St. Augustine is offering extended hours service with their After Hours Injury Clinic. The clinic is located in the Orthopaedic Associates building at One Orthopaedic Place in St. Augustine just north of Flagler Hospital on the Intracoastal Waterway.

The After Hours Injury Clinic is open Monday through Friday from 5 to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and provides an alternative to emergency room visits. The Clinic provides urgent care treatment of fractures, dislocations, sprains, strains and lacerations. Patients are seen on a walk-in basis.

"We opened our After Hours Injury Clinic in June of last year, said Dr. Albert G. Volk, who merged with Dr. James M. Grimes nine years ago to form Orthopaedic Associates of St. Augustine. "We saw a lot of patients the next day or a few days after they visited the hospital emergency room and felt we could offer them a way to streamline the treatment process."

"Because emergency rooms prioritize their treatment based on the severity of trauma, some patients told us they left after spending hours waiting and leaving before receiving treatment. Other patients just did not want to go to the emergency room and waited for days before seeking treatment because of requirements of their time."

When a patient goes to a the emergency room or a general practitioner with an injury, what might be a three or four week ordeal, can be accomplished in a couple of days by using the After Hours Injury Clinic and Orthopaedics Associates of St. Augustine.

"We can produce x-rays and schedule MRIs if it is necessary," explained Dr. Volk. "Basically we are able to streamline the process. They don't have to see a doctor, have x-rays, be sent to a specialist, scheduled for MRI and return to the specialist for treatment. We can also arrange for physical therapy at our facility.

"We can get the patient back to work, back to school or just functioning more normally sooner than the standard scheduling procedures used by doctors or without long waits at the emergency room. You don't have to wait until the next day. The After Hours Injury Clinic is great for work related injuries received while working late shifts or for injuries that occur after normal work hours. Of course, the clinic is ideal for treating children who might be injured after school or on weekends."

The After Hours Injury Clinic is also a benefit for referring doctors. Those doctors



Staff physicians at Orthopaedic Associates of St. Augustine are, seated (L-R): James M. Grimes, M.D.; Kurtis R. Hort, M.D. and Albert G. Volk, M.D.; standing are John B. Stark, M.D.; Beth S. Pearce, D.P.M. and Brian E. Haycook, M.D.

can send their patients to the clinic after hours rather than instructing their patients to go to the emergency room after hours.

"We are finding that primary care physicians like to take advantage of sending their patients to us for specialized treatment. We also see a lot of weekend warriors that are participating in some type of sporting event that can now come in rather than wait until the doctor's office opens the next day, or on a Saturday, they might have to wait a couple of days before they can visit a doctor unless they go to the emergency room."

"We try to make an emergency trip to our After Hours Injury Clinic as pleasant as possible," said Dr. Volk. "We typically are able to see a patient in less than a half hour. There is no appointment necessary and we accept Medicare and most forms of insurance."

Dr. Volk and Dr. Grimes have been practicing in St. Augustine for 13 years. Dr. Volk explains they live in the community and know many individuals on a personal as well as on a professional level. That is one of the reasons he wanted to open the After Hours Injury Clinic.

"We opened the After Hours Injury Clinic to provide better service to the community," said Dr. Volk. "We care about their well being and want to be there when they need us."

Dr. Grimes and Dr. Volk joined their practices to form Orthopaedic Associates at Flagler Hospital almost a decade ago. Dr. Grimes is the current Chief of Surgery for Flagler Hospital and specializes in sports medicine and joint surgery. Dr. Volk specializes in sports medicine and arthroscopic shoulder surgery.

With the addition of Dr. Kurtis R. Hort, who specializes in disorders of the foot and ankle, they opened their new state-of-the-art facility in September of 2005. Soon afterwards they were joined by Dr. Brian E. Haycook, an orthopaedic spine surgeon specializing in disorders of the neck and back.

The most recent addition has been hand, wrist and elbow specialist Dr. John B. Stark. Rounding out the team is podiatrist Beth S. Pearce who provides diabetic foot and wound care as well as broad-spectrum foot care for all ages. Dr. Volk explained they have continued to expand and bring on additional doctors and services because they wanted to provide multi-specialty orthopaedic care for the entire body.

Orthopaedic Associates of St. Augustine's After Hours Injury Clinic is located in the first floor of Orthopaedic Associates at One Orthopaedic Place in St. Augustine located to the north of Flagler Hospital on the Intracoastal Waterway. For additional information, you may call 825-0540.



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