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## Temporary physician shortage in Tisdale

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) is asking the residents of Tisdale & surrounding area for their patience and cooperation over the upcoming months as the result of a temporary physician shortage at the North East Medical Clinic.

As the result of some changes among physician resources, clinic appointment access and emergency room wait times may be temporarily impacted. Residents may experience longer wait times and are being asked to make every effort to schedule non-emergency medical appointments at the clinic and use the emergency room for urgent or emergency situations. For health information or advice anytime, residents may contact HealthLine at 811.

The SHA is working to address the current physician resource challenges in an effort to meet demand. Toward that end, Dr. Alexander Watts of Melfort and Dr. Orhadje, former physician of Tisdale, are also providing services a few days each month. In addition, locum services through the Saskatchewan Medical Association are being utilized as much as possible to address the demand.

A new physician is expected to begin practicing in Tisdale on a permanent basis at the end of June.

Patients that are unable to schedule a timely appointment with a physician or Nurse Practitioner for prescription refills are encouraged to consult with their community pharmacist who will be able to determine how they can best help their patient with their medication needs.

Meeting the health care needs of the residents of Tisdale and area is the primary concern of the health region during this period. While the health region strives to accomplish this, there may be some temporary disruption to the services residents are used to receiving. We will try to minimize the impact on patients and clients but ask for their ongoing patience and cooperation.

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