

Harford County 2011



Benefiting
Community Foundation
of Harford County

Lynch Primary Care, LLC

You've waited days or weeks to be seen, sat in the waiting room for an hour or more and then feel rushed because you only get a few minutes with the doctor. Sound familiar? That is the typical patient experience with primary care in our country.

Dr. J. Kevin Lynch wanted to provide a different kind of patient experience, with prompt, longer appointments, increased availability and more personalized care.

He opened Lynch Primary Care, a concierge medical practice, in October 2009. "Our mission is to provide whole person care by taking time to know the entirety of the patient's history, their responsibilities at home and at work, and their health beliefs and values," he says.

There, office appointments last 30 minutes to two hours and generally start on time. Patients enjoy around-the-clock access to their physician, and a flat

"We are caring for patients like they should be cared for—as a whole person and not just someone passing through."

annual retainer fee covers all office visits, home visits, and most in-office testing and procedures—with no co-pays or insurance hassles.

In response to a recent survey sent out by Lynch Primary Care, patients overwhelmingly agreed that they appreciate the ability to be seen on short notice by a doctor who knows them and listens to them, explains everything well and takes the necessary time.

"We take the time to pay attention and do it right to prevent health problems or, where problems exist, get to the root of the problem," says Dr. Lynch.

Dr. Lynch completed graduate medical school and his residency in internal medicine at the Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine in 1987. He returned to Harford County, where he took over the practice of his own family's longtime general practitioner, Dr. Sidwell.

"I told him when I was 13 that I was going to take over his practice," Dr. Lynch says with a laugh.

Dr. Lynch is also in his 11th year as Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Upper Chesapeake Medical Center where he was voted the first ever "Physician of the Year." He was also honored to be picked as one of two physician advisers for Baltimore Magazine's 2010 Top Docs issue.

Another doctor joined the practice in January 2011. Dr. Angela Poppe Ries, like Dr. Lynch, is a board-certified internist. She is the medical director for Amedisys Hospice, and recently became the medical director for palliative care for Upper Chesapeake Health System. Dr. Poppe Ries attended top-ranked Dartmouth College and Duke University for medical school and residency.

She says, "Working with Lynch Primary Care allows me to use my knowledge base and medical skills in a new manner to develop strong relationships with my patients to ensure their overall well-being."

Office Manager Debbie Mueller has been with Lynch Primary Care since it opened and keeps the practice running smoothly on a daily basis. "Being a part of Lynch Primary Care is the most fulfilling position I have ever held," she says. "Managing this type of practice has been very gratifying, as we are caring for patients like they should be cared for—as a whole person and not just someone passing through."

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