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KC's Trusted Ear, Nose, and Throat Practice

FINDING NEW WAYS TO SAVE PATIENTS' HEALTHCARE DOLLARS DRIVES RAPID GROWTH OF ENT ASSOCIATES OF GREATER KANSAS CITY.

ess than three years ago, ENT Associates of Greater Kansas City had eight physicians working out of three locations. The practice has grown rapidly since then to meet the region's needs and now employs 14 physicians working in seven clinics throughout the region. But that growth hasn't stopped the physicians of ENT Associates of GKC from forming bonds with their patients and communities. Instead, such relationships have helped drive the growth.

"We're a big practice with a lot of people in our group, but we're each serving a different community," says Dr. Colleen Johnson, a Kansas City native. "The patients that come through my door are my kids' teachers, my neighbors, my parents' friends, and people I went to school with."

READY FOR ANYTHING AND ANYONE

ENT Associates of GKC has eight decades of history behind it, but the practice's forward-thinking approach affords it the ability to treat virtually any condition. "Because we stay on top of the latest in technology, we're able to perform several types of procedures in-office, which can save our patients thousands of dollars," says Dr. Kate Aberle. "A lot of patients want that cheaper cost, faster recovery, and faster return to work."

Services that might require multiple visits, referrals, and meetings with several doctors at other practices can sometimes be performed in one visit to one of ENT Associates' seven locations for a fraction of what other providers may charge. "Our office is very forward-thinking," says Aberle. "We've been doing in-office sinus procedures, for example, for several years now."

Aberle specializes in minimally invasive sinus surgeries, most of which she performs in-house at the practice's Shawnee Mission location. Aberle's experiences as a mother of two young children have fueled her interest in pediatric ear, nose, and throat disorders, but she and her colleagues are ready for anything. "We treat everybody from hours-old newborns with feeding issues to elderly patients with hearing problems." "We can treat the full array of ENT complaints in our local offices," adds Johnson. "Within our practice, we can directly refer patients to other surgeons that might have more experience on a particular case."

Complaints commonly treated include:

- · hoarseness and other voice problems
- thyroid nodules and masses
- salivary gland disorders
- chronic ear infections, vertigo, and balance issues
- allergies
- chronic sinus infections

"If it's above the collarbone," says Aberle, "it's within our realm of expertise."

