

# Change in admissions practice at Arnprior hospital

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Dear Editor:

It was great to see the ER renovation project featured in the EMC this past week. It has been a long process and we've been very pleased with how staff has handled all the disruptions while maintaining exemplary care for our patients.

There is one point in the story that I do wish to clarify. When the new ER is fully operational, patients as they enter the ER will be assessed by a nurse first (triaged) and then will proceed to the admission desk. This is a change to our current practice of admissions first and triage second.

The Arnprior & District Memorial Hospital has made this change in order to follow the guidelines set forth by The Canadian Triage & Acuity Scale (CTAS). The CTAS allows emergency department doctors and nurses to triage patients according to the type and severity of their presenting symptoms. This will ensure the sickest patients are seen first.

Bottom line, if you have a broken thumb and another patient comes in with symptoms of a heart attack, the patient with a heart attack will be dealt with first.

If any of you have questions about this please call the hospital at 613-623-7962, x. 293.

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