

When My Husband and I moved to Vermont full-time 4 1/2 years ago, I called between 20 and 30 primary care offices before finding one that would accept new patients. It wasn't a matter of our insurance; It was a matter of capacity. When we finally found a provider, it was months before we could get in to see them for a routine new patient Check up. My Husband scheduled several months after me, and he has gone through at least three different providers at the same location in the time we've been living here due to his providers leaving the practice.

Now I am having issues getting routine testing done. When I went to schedule my routine mammogram this year, the call center at UVM scheduled me 10 months out! This was at Porter. When I asked why I was being scheduled in February of next year when I am due this June, I was told that they are taking the overflow from the main UVM campus. This is simply unacceptable. I called my insurance company, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont, for other options, only to be told I could drive to Rutland or Central Vermont Medical Center, which is past Montpelier. I live in North Ferrisburgh. The fact that there are no independent radiology places that perform mammograms in the Burlington area blows my mind.

This email is just informational, we are lucky. We are healthy, and when we do have serious medical problems, we have been taken care of promptly. However, I am unsure that will be the case going forward as this state becomes more and more unaffordable for all and doctors become scarcer.

Sincerely,
Eileen Winrock
North Ferrisburgh