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A HIGHER LEVEL OF MEDICAL CARE

ALPINE MOBILE PHYSICIANS MAKES HOUSE CALLS IN COLORADO'S VAIL VALLEY

BY KAREN BROST

Whenever your travels take you to the spectacular Vail Valley set high in the Colorado Rockies, there's something you may want to pack right along with your skis, snowboards, hiking boots and other gear: it's the phone number of Alpine Mobile Physicians. That's because in the event that you or a member of your family or business group experience an illness or injury during your visit, a board-certified physician from Alpine Mobile Physicians will come to you — right to your vacation home or hotel — so you won't have to travel to the emergency room. They're on call, 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide urgent/emergency care. And if any x-rays are required, they can expedite the process to eliminate waiting times. The company also serves as a mobile pharmacy, bringing any needed medications right to you.

While the physicians at Alpine Mobile Physicians are experienced at treating a wide variety of injuries or illnesses, one of their specialties is the prevention and treatment of altitude sickness, since the Vail

Valley is set at an elevation of 8,000 feet. "One out of every four visitors that come to the Vail Valley is affected by altitude sickness," explains Douglas Mayeda, MD, president and COO of Alpine Mobile Physicians. "Left untreated, altitude sickness can lead to serious, life-threatening conditions. However, the patient doesn't have to travel to a lower altitude to find relief. Alpine Mobile Physicians' Research Center is the only facility in the area to offer a state-of-the-art altitude simulation chamber that can accurately simulate conditions at lower elevations and provide a safe medical environment for the patient's recovery." The Center can replicate conditions from slightly above sea level all the way to 18,000 feet, which also makes it a popular choice for athletes who need to adapt to different environments in order to compete.

It's nice to know that house calls do still exist — at least when you're visiting Colorado's Vail Valley. ✈

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