



Established 1972

By and For the People of Love County

**Richard Barker,
Administrator**

Ambulance Emergency

911

Clinic Appointments

276-2400

Hospital Information

276-3347

Adult Day Center

276-1542

Community Resources

211

Domestic Violence Help

276-2042

Hotline - 226-6424

Growers Market

276-9410

Primary Medical Care by Patricia Owens

**Patricia Owens, APRN
Family Nurse Practitioner**

Patricia Owens, APRN, is a family nurse practitioner serving children, adolescents, and adults. For an appointment, call (580) 276-2400.

She joined our clinic in 1995 but has hospital service dating back to 1979 – 40 years with Mercy Health/Love County!

An Advanced Practice Registered Nurse is licensed to function independently. In the clinic, Owens performs physical examinations and diagnostic tests, develops and carries out treatment programs, and prescribes medications.

She typically treats 15-20 patients a day, many of them children or adolescents, some of them second-generation patients. Owens also does well-woman checks and serves numerous adult patients coming in for regular monitoring of chronic conditions, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and breathing problems.

Owens was inspired to enter the medical field by the example of her mother, Helen Christner of Wilson, who was a career Registered Nurse. Former hospital-clinic physicians Dr. J.T. O'Connor, Jr., and Dr. Vergil Smith also mentored her. The doctors were practicing at the beginning of both the hospital in 1972 and the clinic in 1990. "They raised me in the profession, encouraged me, and taught me confidence to take on each new role," Owens said.

Starting as a young EMT with the ambulance in 1979, Owens began acquiring higher education while she worked:

- Community college degree and licensure as a Registered Nurse for the hospital in 1981;
- Bachelor's degree from East Central University in 1989;
- Named the hospital's Director of Nursing in 1990.
- Master's degree in nursing from University of Texas-Arlington and certification as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) in 1994.

With the encouragement of the hospital, Owens trained as a pediatric sexual abuse nurse examiner. For many years, the child forensic center in Ardmore called on her to perform medical evaluations of area victims of child sexual abuse.

In 2007, she completed a two-program leading to a post-master's certification in nursing education. At graduation, the University of Oklahoma's College of Nursing recognized Owens for both academic achievement and professional service.

For 25 years, she has been volunteering as a clinical "preceptor." Nearly every semester, Owens welcomes one to three graduate-level nurses to observe and engage in her practice on their way to becoming nurse practitioners in their own right.



We're YOUR Hospital, Clinic and EMS

Mercy Health/Love County

300 Wanda - Marietta, OK 73448

www.mercyhealthlovecounty.com

*The Small-Town Hospital
with the Big Heart*