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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists Serves Northeast Wisconsin with Six Convenient Clinic Locations**

*Practice Provides High Quality, Personalized Patient Care for the Entire Family*

**Oshkosh, WI. (July 13, 2005)** – “Our number one goal is to provide the communities in Northeast Wisconsin with the highest quality Otolaryngological care. We really get to know our patients and their families in an effort to better understand the individual needs of each patient,” commented Dr. Robert Prehn, M.D.

Founded in 1969 by Dr. William A. Crawford, the Oshkosh and Neenah-based practice has grown to include three surgeons, full-time audiologists, nurses and a support staff that totals over 30 employees. All three physicians are board certified surgeons by the American Board of Otolaryngology.

According to Dr. Prehn, “We place a great deal of emphasis on staff training and education as the key to maintaining our high level of patient care in an ever-changing healthcare industry. Whether it is offering a new, cutting-edge procedure to the Fox Cities or simply answering a patient’s question, our team is committed to serving the needs of each patient.”

William Crawford, M.D. opened for business on Ceape Avenue in Oshkosh with a staff of five employees. However, the demands of serving the communities of Oshkosh, Berlin, Ripon and Wild Rose soon necessitated moving their offices to Mercy Oakwood. In 1994, Appleton native Robert J. Bechard, M.D. joined the group along with audiologist Denise Deacy, CCC-A. Dr. Bechard received his undergraduate degree from Ripon College and medical degree from the University of

Wisconsin Medical School. He completed his Otolaryngological residency at the University of Wisconsin as well. Upon Dr. Bechard's arrival, the practice opened a second office at Theda Clark Medical Center in Neenah to serve the growing patient demand.

As the practice grew, Dr. Bechard recruited Robert B. Prehn, M.D. and another audiologist to join the group in 1995. Born and raised in Wausau, Wisconsin, Dr. Prehn earned his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin. He received his General Surgery internship in Chicago and completed his Otolaryngological/Head and Neck Surgery residency at the University of Wisconsin. In addition, Dr. Bechard and Dr. Prehn hold assistant professorships at the University of Wisconsin Medical School.

The practice continued to grow at a rapid rate during 1999 which also marked the retirement of Dr. Crawford. During that same year, Christopher J. Keller, M.D. and another audiologist joined Bechard and Prehn to serve the increased patient volume. Originally from Brookfield, Wisconsin, Keller received his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and medical degree from the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Keller's surgical training was at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont and he completed his residency in Otolaryngology at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont/Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. There was also an expansion of the group's facilities with the opening of two new Oshkosh offices in the Aurora Health Center and the Affinity Clinic on Koeller Street.

Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists of Wisconsin serves the greater Fox Cities region with five convenient office locations in Oshkosh (2), Neenah, Ripon and Berlin. The group is a member of the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, the world's largest organization of head and neck surgeons dedicated to the care of ear, nose and throat disorders. The practice specializes in sinus surgery, ear and hearing disorders, thyroid surgery, skin cancers of the face and neck, obstructive sleep apnea and snoring and cosmetic surgery for the nose. This group was the first practice north of Fond du Lac to routinely use the Stealth CT Guided Sinus System when performing sinus surgeries. Another advantage for patients is the group's affiliation with several area hospitals including Theda Clark Medical Center, Mercy Medical Center, Aurora Health Center, Ripon Hospital and Berlin Hospital.

Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists of Wisconsin is committed to providing comprehensive care for the entire family. For a complete listing of services and office hours visit their Web site at [www.entwis.com](http://www.entwis.com). To make an appointment with one of their physicians or audiologists, call 1-800-435-4851 or 920-303-4130.

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