



Background

Dr. Heiner is an emergency medicine physician at PeaceHealth Peace Island Medical Center in Friday Harbor and a clinical assistant professor of medicine at the University of Washington. Dr. Heiner earned his bachelor's degree from Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash. and his M.D. from the University of Vermont's College of Medicine in Burlington, Vermont.

He completed his emergency medicine specialty training at Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis, Wash. and is board certified in emergency medicine. With the U.S. Army, Dr. Heiner was stationed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he was faculty and an attending physician at the military's largest emergency medicine training program at Brooke Army Medical Center.

After completing his military service obligation, Dr. Heiner returned to his home state of Washington. Dr. Heiner is an editor of his specialty's primary medical journal, *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. His academic and professional interests include medical care in rural and austere settings and aspects of patient-centered care in the emergency department.

In his own words

I grew up in rural Whatcom County and graduated from Mount Baker High School, and have always felt connected to the rural setting. I stayed in Whatcom County for college, and during medical school at the University of Vermont, sought out training opportunities in rural medical clinics.

While in medical school, I joined the army and, after my specialty training in Emergency Medicine, found myself at a large joint army/air force trauma center in San Antonio, Texas as an associate program director for the military's largest Emergency Medicine Residency Training Program at the San Antonio Military Medical Center (Brooke Army Medical Center).

In 2011 I deployed to Afghanistan with a mobile combat support hospital. I again had the opportunity to be part of a small emergency team in an austere setting. I left the Army in 2012 and was recruited to train Emergency Medicine residents and work again a big, busy setting at Harborview/University of Washington Medical Center but shortly thereafter missed my roots and moved back to Whatcom County, where I discovered PeaceHealth Peace Island Medical Center in Friday Harbor and a great opportunity to combine my love for both rural medical and medical education.

