



Urgent Care Centres

What is an Urgent Care Centre?

Urgent Care Centres provide access to care for those with unexpected but non-life-threatening health concerns. Urgent care is when you need same-day treatment for a serious, unexpected health issue that is not life-threatening. Urgent Care Centres can be utilized by patients with or without a primary care provider.

How Does Urgent Care Compare to Other Services?

- Walk-in primary care clinics offer fast, convenient access to medical care. They are generally staffed by physicians and nurse practitioners.
- Walk-in clinics are a good option for when you are not feeling well, but it's not serious enough for the emergency room or urgent care.
- Walk-in clinics can be used by people who have a primary care provider but may not have immediate access or by people who have no primary care provider.
- Hospital emergency departments provide medical care at any time, day or night. Unlike urgent care centres or walk-in clinics, emergency departments address the most serious and life-threatening health issues.
- Patients with potentially life-threatening conditions should immediately call 911.
- Emergency departments are the only sites that receive ambulances.

Where to go for Care

Walk-in Primary Care Clinics (Care that can wait 24-48 Hours)	Urgent Care Clinics (Same Day Care)	Emergency Care (Immediate Care)
Flu-like symptoms	Mild abdominal pain	Stroke/facial weakness
Sore throat	Limb injuries like muscle sprains or fractures	New onset of weakness
Cough	Mild headaches	Heart attack/chest pain or tightness
Medication refills	Earaches	Unable to wake/unconscious
Sprains/strains	Minor infections, including chest, ear and urinary tract	Sudden onset of severe headache or confusion
Fever	Skin and eye irritations	Seizure and/or severe head injury
Ear pain	Mild asthma	Major assault
Sinus infections	Small lacerations	Severe difficulty breathing or trouble speaking
Bug bites or stings	Minor respiratory issues	Uncontrolled or severe bleeding
Vomiting	High fever	Major trauma such as loss of limb or laceration
Shallow cuts	Less serious child illness and injury	Severe allergic reaction
Minor injuries, such as cuts, blisters, mild burns, wounds	Cuts, wounds, or skin conditions	Severe burns
Skin conditions, such as rash, sunburns, lice, athlete's foot	Dehydration/constipation	Poisoning overdose
Vaccinations	New worsening pain	
Non-life threatening allergic reactions		

The conditions listed are examples and may not be inclusive of all care needs.

