



Urgent Care Centres

What is an Urgent Care Centre?

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 if you are not feeling well, but 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

Primary Care Clinics (Includes doctor, family care team, nurse practitioner, or walk-in clinic)	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	Minor infections, including chest, ear and urinary tract	Unable to wake/unconscious
Fever	Skin and eye irritations	Sudden onset of severe headache or confusion
Ear pain	Mild asthma	Seizure and/or severe head injury
Sinus infections	Small lacerations	Major assault
Bug bites or stings	Minor respiratory issues	Severe difficulty breathing or trouble speaking
Vomiting	High fever	Uncontrolled or severe bleeding
Minor injuries, such as cuts, blisters, mild burns, wounds	Less serious child illness and injury	Major trauma such as loss of limb or laceration
Skin conditions, such as rash, sunburns, lice, athlete's foot	Cuts, wounds, or skin conditions	Severe allergic reaction
Vaccinations	Dehydration/constipation	Severe burns
	New worsening pain	Poisoning overdose

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