



## URGENT CARE CENTERS

*An alternative medical treatment option*

### What is the advantage of using urgent care centers?

Urgent care centers are a convenient, cost-effective medical care alternative when your primary care physician is unavailable. Typically no appointments are necessary at most urgent care centers, and hours extend beyond regular doctor's office hours making them available earlier and later than your primary care physician.

Using an urgent care center for appropriate treatments can reduce the wait time associated with crowded ERs, allowing ER staff to focus on true emergency cases and improve overall patient satisfaction.

Urgent care centers can also save you money when compared to the costs of an emergency room visit.

### What medical conditions are typically treated at an urgent care center?

Generally, urgent care is considered as an alternative means to receive medically necessary treatment for an unexpected illness or accidental injury that is not life- or limb-threatening. Urgent care can be appropriate when immediate services are required but not considered a medical emergency that requires emergency room treatment including:

- minor injuries (sprains & strains)
- minor cuts, burns, hives, rashes
- severe sore throat or cough
- severe abdominal pain
- back problems
- ear infections
- sinusitis
- asthma
- fever
- accidents and falls

### Don't forget! You have options.

The best place for routine, nonemergency care is in your doctor's office. However, there are also other alternatives for medical treatment when your primary care physician is not available.

- retail clinics
- urgent care centers
- emergency rooms for true medical emergency

### Find a participating urgent care center:

Visit [ahatpa.com](http://ahatpa.com) and hover over MEMBERS from the top navigation bar.

Select FIND A PROVIDER from the MEMBERS drop-down menu.