

# Urgent Care Versus Emergency Room (ER)



nh healthy families™



When you have an illness or injury that is not life-threatening, you don't have to use the Emergency Room (ER). You have other options. You should first try to visit your Primary Care doctor. If that is not possible, an Urgent Care center might be the right choice for you.

## Urgent Care Centers are faster and more convenient than the ER.

### NATIONAL AVERAGES

#### URGENT CARE

Average wait time:

15-45  
MINUTES

You don't need an appointment at an Urgent Care center. Most Urgent Care centers have extended night and weekend hours.

You can be treated for the most common illnesses and injuries at Urgent Care centers.

#### Urgent Care centers treat things like:

- Strep Throat
- Ear Infections
- Conjunctivitis
- Cold Symptoms
- Flu Symptoms
- Upset Stomach
- Urinary Tract Infections
- And more...

#### EMERGENCY ROOM

Average wait time:

2.5  
HOURS

The ER should be used if a medical condition is life-threatening or involves severe wounds.

#### When you need an ER:

- Signs of heart attacks, including chest pain
- Signs of stroke, like sudden onset of numbness in the arms or legs
- Severe shortness of breath
- Poisoning
- Major life- or limb-threatening injuries
- Severe wounds and amputations
- Coughing up or vomiting blood
- Suicidal or homicidal feelings



***If symptoms arise suddenly and you believe that a life is in jeopardy, call 9-1-1.***

Urgent Care and ER average wait times source: [www.solvehealth.com](http://www.solvehealth.com)

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