IS IT URGENT OR AN EMERGENCY?

CHOOSING THE RIGHT MEDICAL CARE

Your doctor’s office can direct you to the best place to get medical help – even after hours. They can also answer your questions about COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccinations.

SEEK URGENT CARE
If your doctor’s office is unavailable, or you don’t have a regular doctor, visiting an urgent care center is your next best option in a non-emergency situation.

REASONS TO VISIT
- Doctor’s office is unavailable, or you don’t have a regular doctor.
- Minor illnesses and injuries:
  - Cold, flu, or fever
  - Strains, sprains, or breaks
  - Infections
  - Mild burns
  - Allergies
- COVID-19 vaccination, testing, and questions about treatment for mild-to-moderate cases.

GO TO THE HOSPITAL
Sometimes, you may have a medical emergency needing immediate attention, and that’s when you should go to your hospital’s emergency department.

REASONS TO VISIT
- Severe or life-threatening illnesses, injuries, or trauma:
  - Chest pain
  - Abdominal pain
  - Stroke
  - Severe head injury
- Severe COVID-19 symptoms:
  - Persistent chest pain
  - Shortness of breath
  - Confusion
  - Can’t wake up or stay awake
  - Pale, gray, and/or blue skin, lips, or nail beds

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health

IF YOUR MEDICAL SITUATION IS SEVERE OR LIFE-THREATENING, CALL 9-1-1.