

Emergency Room Alternatives

You Have Quicker, Less Expensive Choices for Quality Care

You should always go to the nearest emergency room in a life-threatening situation. However, for other situations, including urgent care, you have options that can save you time and money.

Consider using one of the following emergency room alternatives next time you're sick or injured:

Care Options	Description	Types of Services They Can Provide			Hours	Relative Cost	How to Find One
Blue Care® Line	Explain your symptoms to a nurse over the phone, and they'll help you decide what to do next.	Assessment for the treatment of: Fever Dizziness Cuts General discomfort			24/7	No cost	Call the Blue Care Line at 1-888-247-BLUE (2583)
Well Connection	Live video visits with licensed doctors on your favorite device.	Back painBronchitisCoughDiarrhea	FeverRashesRespiratory infectionsSinus infections	Sore throatSkin conditionsUrinary tract infections	24/7 for medical care	\$\$	Download the Well Connection app, or visit wellconnection.com.
		Well Connection doctors and providers can also treat behavioral health conditions by appointment.					
Limited Services Clinics ¹	Clinics located within your local pharmacy that treat simple medical concerns.	Cold & fluBronchitisSinus & respiratory infectionsSore throat	DiarrheaGoutStrep throatUrinary tract infections	PinkeyeHypertensionMigrainesPneumonia	Days, evenings, weekends	\$\$	Visit Find a Doctor at findadoctor.bluecrossma. com/ 1. Select Urgent Care Centers 2. Refine your results by choosing Limited
Urgent Care Centers ²	Local clinics that treat conditions that aren't life-threatening but require immediate treatment.	 Broken bones Digital X-rays Drug tests EKG test 	 Lab tests Minor burns or injuries PPD/TB skin tests Pregnancy test Short-term (acute) illness 	 Splints Stitches Sports & school physicals Shots & vaccines 	Days, evenings, weekends	\$\$\$	Services Clinics or Urgent Care Center under Specialties Results are determined by your selected location and providers that participate in your network.
		Plus, symptoms treated at limited services clinics					

Care Options	Description	Types of Services They Can Provide	Hours	Relative Cost	How to Find One
Room	Full hospital service for severe symptoms that could seriously jeopardize your health or the health of another (including an unborn child).	 Possible heart attack Stroke Poisoning Loss of consciousness 	24/7	\$\$\$\$\$\$	Call 911 or go to your nearest hospital

Talk to Your Primary Care Provider

Unless it's a true emergency, it's always best to call your doctor's office first, even after hours. They may want to see you or suggest alternatives to the emergency room. If the doctor's office is closed, there may be recorded after-hours care instructions or the option to speak with an on-call nurse or doctor who can provide advice based upon your medical history.

Using Limited Service Clinics and Urgent Care Centers

To check if your health plan covers service from your location of choice, or to see if you need a referral, call the Member Service number on the front of your card. Use our Find a Doctor tool at **bluecrossma.com/findadoctor** to find limited service clinics and urgent care centers that participate in your network.

Well Connection—Care at Your Convenience

You can see licensed doctors and providers for minor medical and behavioral health care using live video visits on your favorite device. All you need is an internet connection and a webcam. They have an average of 15 years of experience and can look up your medical history, diagnose and treat your symptoms, and prescribe medication, if necessary.*

Download the app or visit wellconnection.com to get started.





*Call the Member Service number on the front of your ID card to see if Well Connection is included in your benefits. Please note that doctors and providers can't write prescriptions for controlled substances while delivering care online.

- 1. Example: CVS Minute Clinic®
- 2. Examples: CareWell® Urgent Care, Doctors Express,® and Health Express

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

ATTENTION: If you don't speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call Member Service at the number on your ID Card (TTY: 711).

ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia con el idioma. Llame al número de Servicio al Cliente que figura en su tarjeta de identificación (TTY: 711).

ATENÇÃO: Se fala português, são-lhe disponibilizados gratuitamente serviços de assistência de idiomas. Telefone para os Serviços aos Membros, através do número no seu cartão ID (TTY: 711).

