



Before going to the emergency room, please call us first!

We hope that these guidelines can help you better understand where to seek care for your child. If you think your child has a life-threatening condition, always call 9-1-1.

Seeing your child’s pediatrician can be the best option as they typically know your child best. Emergency room (ER) care, which is the most expensive option, should only be used if you think your child has a medical emergency.

Make an appointment with your child’s pediatrician to be evaluated and treated for the following:

Allergies	Ear pain	Pink eye
Mild asthma attack	Most fevers	Rashes
Colds, cough or sore throat	Headaches	Sprains
Constipation	Insect bites	Stomach pain
Minor cuts or burns	Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea	Urinary tract infections

If you think your child may have a more serious condition, **please call their doctor** to determine the best setting in which to be evaluated. Some conditions that may need to be seen in the ER include:

Major asthma attack	Severe chest pain	Swallowed sharp object
Bleeding that won’t stop	Fever in infant under 8 weeks old	Vomiting/coughing up blood
Burns (burn is size of child’s palm)	Seizure	Vision loss
Cuts (gaping cuts - especially on the face and especially in younger children, or the bleeding won’t stop)	Head injury (your child hits their head and appears to pass out or lose consciousness for a few seconds or longer)	Shortness of breath (your child has heavy, fast breathing, is gasping for air or manages to utter only two or three words before taking a breath)