

When and Where to Access Care

Type of Provider	Scenario	Type of Illness or Injury
Primary Care Physician (PCP) (Common under HMO plan)	Annual wellness exams, or moderate pain you need diagnosed	General checkup, moderate pain of unknown origin, etc.
Specialist (Requires referral from PCP under HMO)	Experiencing pain specific to a particular region of the body (i.e. muscular, gastrointestinal, ocular, bone/joint, skin, ears/nose/throat, etc.)	Ulcers, rash, digestive problems, vision problems, elevated levels, etc.
Hospital	Having an inpatient or outpatient procedure performed, in a critical state	Delivering a baby, major/minor surgery, recovery, monitoring, etc.
Walk-in Clinic	Treatment of unscheduled, non-emergency illnesses/injuries and certain immunizations	Vaccination, mild cold/flu, minor cuts/abrasions, etc.
Urgent Care (Alternative to ER)	Treatment of most non-life threatening emergencies	Broken bones (not multiple fractures), minor wounds (not bleeding profusely), mild fever, flu, acute sinusitis, etc.
Emergency Room (ER)	Treatment of all life/limb-threatening emergencies	Severe head trauma, multiple/compound fractures, heavy bleeding, elevated fever, severe burns, seizures, poison, etc.