



POWELL

Weighing Freestanding Emergency Rooms against Urgent Care Centers

URGENT CARE CENTERS

Cannot have the word “emergency” in the name; examples include Concentra, CareNow, Patient First and US HealthWorks.

Typically seven days a week until at least 7 p.m.; may exclude some holidays

69% of patients are seen within 20 minutes, according to the Urgent Care Association of America Foundation.

47% of urgent care doctors specialize in family medicine, according to the Urgent Care Association of America Foundation.

Think of urgent care centers as an extension of your primary care physician. Doctors here commonly treat upper respiratory infections, flu symptoms, simple fractures, etc.

100 to 150 patients on average each day, according to the American Medical Association

According to debt.org, if you are paying out-of-pocket for something like a strep throat test, you could pay roughly \$111.



LOOK FOR
THIS



HOURS



WAIT TIME



WHO YOU'LL
SEE



CAPABILITIES



PATIENT
LOAD



COST

FREESTANDING ER ROOMS

Will have the word “emergency” in the name. It may be associated with a hospital, but it won't be on the hospital's campus.

24 hours a day, seven days a week

Patients are typically seen in fewer than 15 minutes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This is compared to the average four-hour wait in a traditional ER.

Most, if not all, of the doctors on staff are board-certified in emergency medicine.

Consider a freestanding ER if your health condition requires a high level of care, including instant lab results, lifesaving intravenous medications, full CT Scan, cardiopulmonary monitoring, etc.

35 to 40 patients on average each day, according to the American Medical Association

According to debt.org, if you are paying out-of-pocket for something like a strep throat test, you could pay roughly \$531.