Is it Urgent or an Emergency?

Whether it's urgent or an emergency, kids need pediatric, kid-focused care in any situation, even at a moment's notice. Your primary care provider is always there for you. So, give them a call first if you have any questions. If your provider thinks your child needs to be seen right away, Children's Hospital Colorado is here to help.

After hours, use urgent care, or better yet, call our 24/7 ParentSmart Healthline at 720-777-0123 to get advice from a registered pediatric nurse, who might be able to help you avoid an unnecessary visit to the ED.

If there’s any chance it’s life-threatening, call 911 — it’s the quickest way to get emergency medical attention.

Still unsure? We offer both urgent and emergency care for kids at our South Campus in Highlands Ranch and our North Campus in Broomfield. Or just consult our handy guide:

**Urgent Care**

- Allergies (seasonal)
- Allergic reactions with no trouble breathing or vomiting
- Asthma attack with mild wheezing
- Bloody nose
- Broken bone or sprain (bone not deformed or sticking out of the skin)
- Burns (minor)
- Cough, cold or congestion
- Cuts (that may require stitches)
- Ear pain or tugging
- Fainting but acting normal
- Fever in children older than 60 days old
- Headaches (mild)
- Head injury in kids older than 6 months if behaving normally
- Hives with no trouble breathing
- Insect bite or sting
- Object stuck in nose or ear
- Pain when peeing for kids older than 60 days
- Pink eye
- Rash or mild skin irritation or infection
- Seizure that has stopped
- Sinus infection
- Skin infection or boil (minor)
- Sore throat
- Stomach Pain
- Swallowed objects (no button batteries) with no trouble breathing
- Vomiting, diarrhea or constipation

**Emergency Care**

- Allergic reaction with trouble breathing or vomiting
- Asthma attack with trouble breathing after treatment
- Breathing trouble or blue lips/fingers
- Broken bone (bone deformed or coming out of skin)
- Burns (any serious, electrical, acid or burns involving the face)
- Concern for abuse or neglect
- Cuts that won’t stop bleeding
- Dehydration
- Difficulty responding or waking up
- Fever in children younger than 60 days old
- Head injury with persistent vomiting or behavior change or in child younger than 6 months
- Hives with trouble breathing
- Ingestions (call Poison Control first: 800-222-1222)
- Insect bite or sting with trouble breathing
- Lethargic or noticeably less activity than usual
- Migraine or severe headache with neck pain
- Need for IV medications or fluids
- Numbness, paralysis, weakness or vision loss
- Object stuck in skin or eye (don’t pull it out)
- Seizures that won’t stop
- Slurred speech or trouble speaking
- Suicide attempt or threat to self or others
- Swallowed button battery
- Swallowed any object with trouble breathing

If your child needs a COVID-19 test but is otherwise well, please do not bring them to the Emergency Department. Several more convenient and cost-effective testing options are available.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has COVID-19 testing centers around the state. These sites do not require identification, insurance or a doctor’s note.

Please visit covid19.colorado.gov/testing.
Emergency Care locations open 24/7
Urgent Care hours 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. every day

Find a doctor or get pediatric guidance day or night

ParentSmart healthline™
720-777-0123 or 855-KID-INFO

Scan this code to find urgent care and emergency locations and hours near you.

Scan the appropriate QR code for your device to download the free mobile app or visit childrenscolorado.org/ChildrensMD

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